



Graveney School

Drug Misuse Policy

IMPLEMENTATION & MONITORING

The impact of the policy is evaluated by an analysis of exclusions carried out by the school for breaches of the policy, and in consultation with the school nurse and safeguarding team.

REVIEW

This policy is reviewed annually by the Head of Self-Evaluation and School Improvement, in liaison with the Senior Leadership Team and Head of PSHE. This is followed with an annual review by the Governors Community Committee.

Last reviewed: 19th October 2016

Next review date: Autumn term 2017/18.

STATEMENT

All members of the Graveney School community are committed to tackling drug misuse and to maintaining a drug-free environment; within which pro-active drug education and pastoral support and care can be provided.

SUPPORTING STATEMENTS

1. The school is dedicated to the health and safety of all its pupils and to doing all it can to make Graveney an environment free of controlled drugs. Controlled drugs are drugs controlled by law and in general their use is illegal.
2. Graveney School is committed to tackling drug misuse.
3. The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people, and seeks to encourage pupils in need of support to come forward, and to provide them with that support and guidance.

DRUG EDUCATION

The school believes that it has a duty to inform and educate young people on the consequences of drug use and misuse. The school takes a pro-active stance on this matter, believing that drug education is a vital part of the Personal, Social and Health Education programme of every pupil. The aim of drug education at Graveney is to give pupils the facts about drug use and misuse, to emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and to give pupils the knowledge, skills and confidence to resist illegal drugs and to make healthy and informed choices. The school is keen to encourage inter-agency co-operation in the field of drug prevention. Experts in the field of drug prevention will be used wherever possible, and the school will continue to liaise with local health and social services and the police.

PASTORAL CARE AND SUPPORT FOR PUPILS AT RISK

The school is aware of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people and is committed to providing support and help for pupils within a secure and drug-free environment. If a pupil comes forward, or has been identified by the school as having experimented with illegal drugs outside the school premises or as being at risk of doing so, he or she will be offered appropriate advice and support and his or her parents will be informed.

DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES (NOW INCLUDING PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES)

The Psychoactive Substances Act of 2016 now bans formerly 'legal highs' such as 'meow-meow', which are now classified as class B drugs.

1. If the school has reasonable grounds to suspect that drugs are being used or supplied on the school premises, the school is legally bound to inform the police. Parents of any pupils identified as being involved will also be informed.
2. If the school is informed of possible criminal activity in relation to drug misuse outside the school premises, the police will be informed, in the interest of safeguarding the health and safety of young people in the area. Parents of any pupils identified as being involved will also be informed.
3. If controlled drugs are found on a pupil or on school premises, both the police and parents will be informed.
4. Graveney is committed to tackling drug misuse among young people. Any instances of possession, use or supply of controlled drugs on school premises will be regarded as a threat to the health and safety of others and will be treated with the utmost seriousness.

The school will consider and investigate each incident individually. However, it must be made clear that:

- a) Pupils selling controlled drugs on the school premises will normally lead to permanent exclusion.
- b) Pupils being in possession of or using controlled drugs on the school premises, or when representing the school (e.g. school trips, sports matches, etc.), will normally lead to fixed term exclusion and could lead to permanent exclusion.
- c) Pupils being in possession of controlled drugs outside the school premises and/or during breaks from lessons, on the way to and from school, when they are in the vicinity of the school will normally lead to fixed term exclusion and could lead to permanent exclusion. The vicinity of the school includes, but is not limited to the surrounding streets, bus stops and recreational areas. This should not be construed as the school's condoning the possession and use of drugs at times and in places other than those referred to above.
- d) Any involvement in drug-related incidents will be treated very seriously and will normally lead to fixed term exclusion and could lead to permanent exclusion.

In all cases, the school will take steps to ensure that pupils have access to professional support and advice.

Glossary

PSHE	Stands for P ersonal, S ocial, H ealth and E conomic education. PSHE education can be defined as a planned programme of learning through which children and young people acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their lives.
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