



# DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

**Hollingbourne Primary School,**

Eyhorne Street,  
Hollingbourne  
Maidstone  
Kent ME17 1UA

## Drug Education Policy

**This policy applies to all pupils, parents/carers, volunteers and staff members attending the school or whilst on school business including offsite visits and trips.**

### Principles

Hollingbourne Primary School is committed to the Health and Safety of all its members and believes that we have a duty to support and safeguard the well-being of all pupils and staff. The school is committed to the principles of the National Healthy Schools Standard.

The school values the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of its pupils, and through the general ethos of the school, we seek to encourage and develop young people's learning and ensure support appropriate to their needs is provided.

Education about drugs is not concerned merely with substance, but with people in their social settings and therefore should involve the development of attitudes, values and the development of skills, as much as the acquisition of appropriate knowledge.

### Drug Policy Aims:

- To provide a safe, healthy environment in which pupils and staff can learn and develop.
- To ensure all members of the school community know and understand the rules of the school, the expectations about their behaviour, and the policy regarding drug incidents and concerns about individuals.
- To promote clarity about the management of drug related incidents in the school.
- To encourage and enable pupils to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle now, and in the future.
- To enable pupils to make reasoned, informed choices.
- To minimise pupils experimentation with illegal or harm causing substances.
- To address and take account of local community needs, including the differences and diversity within the school community.
- To support and engage parents/carers and pupils in their own personal learning and responsibilities.
- To enable young people and staff to access support structures (including the voluntary sector), e.g. Camhs, counselling, and treatment.
- To monitor, evaluate and review learning outcomes for pupils.
- To work with KCC and outside agencies, including the voluntary sector, to secure and support a balanced delivery of a drugs education programme, e.g. Community Drug Education Advisors, Kent Advisory Service, other schools, Healthy Schools Schemes, Health Promotion, Primary Health Care professionals, Community Police, Youth and Community and Kent Safe Schools.

**Objectives for Drug Education:**

- To provide opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and identify the distinction between authorised and unauthorised drugs.
- To develop and equip pupils with the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to build their resilience and avoid peer group pressure or unwanted drug offers from others.
- To build pupils' decision-making skills and increased self esteem.
- To engage parents/carers in the school community and learning process.
- To enable pupils and staff to access support if they have concerns about their own or others' drug use.

**Principles of Teaching and Learning**

At Hollingbourne Primary School, the children are taught and encouraged to become more independent and confident citizens with an increasing ability to make informed choices about their own health and environment. Drug education is taught in upper key stage 2 through the science and PSHE curricula and through Theatre ADAD interactive drama workshops for Year 6.

**Drugs related incidents****Pupils**

The Head teacher or Deputy head teacher should be informed immediately of any drugs related incident in school and will agree how the matter will be handled.

Where it is considered that the student has been at risk, or it is thought that the drug or substance is unauthorised, the student's parent or carer will immediately be contacted and asked to attend the school, unless this is not considered to be in the best interests of the student in which case Kent Child Protection Guidelines should be followed.

The Police Youth Crime Reduction Officer (YCRO) will be the first point of contact with regard to confiscation of suspected drugs. (PC 11799 Paul Hughes/0797 690112) or if he is unavailable then the police will be notified in the normal way.

The Head teacher will sanction the student appropriately which may involve the consideration and application of a fixed term or permanent exclusion.

**Staff**

Any staff bringing unauthorised drugs to work or who present themselves to work in an intoxicated state, either through drink or drugs, will be subject to disciplinary procedures and possible police prosecution. This is also the case when staff are in a position of trust on school trips and activities off site.

**Resources and Support**

- For initial advice and support contact: Schools Drugs Education Advisers - Kate Craib  
Mid Kent and Tonbridge and Malling  
Tel 01622 605165  
Mobile 07717 716897  
e-mail [kate.craib@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kate.craib@kent.gov.uk)  
- <http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/children/drugs.cfm>
- DCSF Policy and Statutory guidance:  
<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/>
- See also the Every Child Matters pages:  
<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk>
- Parents and young people information and support helpline:  
[www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)  
(0800 77 66 00)
- Drugscope – [www.drugscope.org.uk](http://www.drugscope.org.uk) (useful national data)

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