



LAUNDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR DRUGS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND RELATED INCIDENTS

June 2023

Next Review June 2025

Signed *[Signature]*

Date *27/5/23*

Launde Primary School

Policy for Drugs and Substance Abuse and Related Incidents

Aims of Drug and Substance Abuse Education

- To enable all pupils to make healthy and informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing skills.
- To foster and develop self-esteem.
- To provide accurate information.
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse.
- To practice skills necessary to deal with a drug or substance abuse offer situations.
- To widen understanding about health and social issues.
- To seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face.
- To enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal and professional support.

Curriculum

The aims are fulfilled through aspects of the pupils' experiences in the taught curriculum and through extra curricular activities.

All teachers are responsible for Health/Drug Education as part of the science and our RSE curriculum.

The drugs and substance abuse education programme is taught by all class teachers and support teachers when appropriate.

Please refer to RSE curriculum for curriculum content.

Methodology

A wide range of teaching methods may be used including discussions, role-play, case studies and other creative ways of involving pupils in understanding the issues. The schemes are at times enhanced by a visit from the school nurse or the local police.

How We Handle An Incident involving drugs or substance abuse

Statement of the principles of use and misuse:

- The school will not accept either the misuse of drugs or the illegal supply of these materials.
- This school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being.
- The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people.
- In this school the Head Teacher and Governing Body takes the final decision on any response to an incident in close consultation with all or some of the following:

School Health Service.
The Police.(Drugs Squad)
Local Authority Childrens Services

The welfare and best interests of the young person will always be taken into account and balanced against the needs of the whole school community in dealing with any drugs related incident. Launde Primary School believes that in cases of the misuse of substances, it is the behaviour, not the person, which should be seen as unacceptable.

Procedures

The School can experience a variety of incidents including:

- Children asking questions about drugs or substance abuse in class.
- Children talking about their use of drugs or substance abuse.
- Children or Staff finding drug paraphernalia on the school premises.
- Children bringing drugs into school.
- Use of drugs including alcohol by children on the school premises.
- Information of children or their parents or siblings about use of drugs in the family.

Where a member of Staff encounters a DRI (Drugs Related Incident) their action should be guided by the following:

- Staff looking after children under the age of 16 are assumed to be acting in “loco parentis” and therefore have a duty to act as a responsible and wise parent.
- The well-being of the child is of paramount importance. A recognised person in first aid should be consulted. Keep any evidence that may assist in identifying substances (including vomit) and ensure this is made available to health professionals.
- Remove any dangerous substances or items.
- If a pupil (s) is found in possession of substances suspected of being a controlled drug, the member of staff should remove the substance and lock it away in the presence of a witness.
- Gather evidence that may not be available later.
- Make a brief written record of the incident preferably on the forms attached.
- Report the incident as soon as practically possible.
- The headteacher will determine what further action needs to be taken i.e.
 - to interview pupils
 - gather further evidence
 - inform parents
 - inform police
 - social services

Each case will be assessed on its own particular circumstances. The headteacher will, if further action is necessary, complete part B of the DRI form Appendix 1. An action plan may be drawn up in consultation with the pupil, her/his parents and any appropriate outside support agency aimed at making available the necessary help (e.g. counselling, medical, education, discipline, County Lines).

- Support put in place. Exclusions or sanctions may be necessary. Consideration to be given to the likely consequence for the individual, balanced against the needs of the whole school community.
- The police will always be informed if illegal substances are being sold in or near the school.
- Refer any inquiries from parents, outside agencies and the media to the headteacher.
- A sensitive approach will be taken to support the child and their family.

Where a pupil has been involved in a drug related incident the school will endeavour to secure appropriate care and support to the pupil and the family. This support will be sought from:

Management Team.
School Health Services.
Social Services - (Child Protection).
County Lines
Other agencies.

APPENDIX 1

**LAUNDE PRIMARY SCHOOL
DRUG RELATED INCIDENT FORM**

PART A (To be completed by member of staff discovering, witnessing or being directly involved in a drug related incident.)

Name of member of staff dealing with incident

Date of Incident Time of Incident

Location of Incident

Person's Involved

.....

Brief Description of Evidence:

Evidence of Drug Abuse (to include assessment of reliability of evidence):

Action taken:

Signature:..... Date

Headteacher Response

Head signed Date