



LIONHEART
SCHOOL

Drugs Policy

July 2025 – July 2028



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Introduction

Our vision at Lionheart School is to have high standards of teaching and learning which challenge our pupils to achieve. Our Drugs Policy supports this ideal by:

- Lionheart School is committed to the health and safety of all its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being.
- This service acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of its pupils and through the general ethos and culture will seek to persuade pupils needing support to come forward.
- Staff are aware that there are a large number of young people who come into contact with drugs and recognise a need for a comprehensive drugs education.
- Lionheart School defines “Drugs” as any substance which may affect the way the mind or body works.
- Lionheart School operates a zero-tolerance policy in relation to drugs. Lionheart School will not condone the use of illegal substances, the misuse of any substance or the illegal supply of these substances by students or any other members of our school community.

Aims and Objectives of this policy

- To enable the student to make informed healthy choices.
- To clarify the range of substances to be covered.
- To identify students existing knowledge.
- To understand the valuable role of medicinal drugs.
- To explore the issues relating to use and misuse.
- To clarify the laws relating to the use and misuse.
- The content of any programme will be determined by the group and take into account the requirement to promote the moral and physical development of the students.

The aims are to provide opportunities for students to:-

- Explore attitudes and values around substance misuse.
- Evaluate media messages on drug use.
- Practise decision making skills.
- Become aware of peer pressure.
- Develop assertiveness skills.
- Consider the consequence of risk taking.
- Learn how to access sources of help and information
- Emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Drug Education in the Curriculum

It is intended that by providing students with accurate knowledge at each Key Stage, it will promote their understanding and equip the students to make informed and healthy choices about the use of substances. Students will be informed of both the physiological and psychological effect of drugs and have a realistic understanding of the implications of substance misuse.

Lionheart School supports the need to lay the foundations of drug education at primary school level.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher via the Deputy Head(s) and the staff member with responsibility for child protection - the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) with the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL). The DDSL reports to a senior member of staff (the Deputy Head). All staff must uphold this policy.

Lionheart School believes it has a duty to inform and educate young people of the consequences of substance use and misuse.

It aims through personal, social and health education to ensure that all students are given:-

- Accurate information.
- The opportunity to understand the possible consequences of drug misuse.
- Access to acquiring the skills to avoid becoming involved with drugs.
- The opportunity to explore attitudes and to encourage students to take responsibility for their actions towards others and thus inform positive relationships.
- A credible and consistent message.
- The opportunity to speak confidently to a member of staff.
- A consistent whole school approach.
- The Drug Education Programme in accordance with the framework from the DfE will give students opportunities to consider the effects of solvents, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.
- Accurate information to make informed and healthy decisions and thus encourage them to adopt a healthy lifestyle by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing and practising skills.
- The role of the media.
- Effective communication skills to give students the courage and confidence to say "No".

- An understanding about health and social issues, e.g. sex and sexuality, crime, HIV and AIDS.
- The law.

These aims are fulfilled through aspects of the students' experiences in the taught curriculum, the informal curriculum and through opportunities for extracurricular activities. Delivery is mainly through PSHE, including the National Healthy Schools Standard, Science and Nurture.

Lionheart School will include other agencies as part of the Drug Education Programme such as the Police, Social Services, Local Authority and other Health & Drug Agencies. All visitors who support Lionheart School will be informed of the values held within this policy.

Agencies working together with our students will inform the school where personal experience/issues may need to be considered when planning the curriculum.

The Headteacher, via the DSL and DDSL take overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation and for liaison with the Management Committee, parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies.

Information and details on outside agencies will be available to help any student seeking confidential advice and support on drugs.

If illegal drugs are being used or supplied on school premises then the police will be informed and the parents/carers of the student concerned will also be informed. Where any suspected illegal substance is confiscated, the member of staff must inform the DDSL, DSL and the Headteacher.

All incidents will be recorded by the Headteacher via the DSL and DDSL.

The Headteacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media if necessary, as the issue of substance misuse is an emotive one and will take appropriate action and guidance from LA Press Office and the Legal Department.

Lionheart School would like to also offer any necessary advice/support to any parent who seeks further information with regard to drug misuse.