



CARLINGHOW ACADEMY

Drugs Policy

Approved by:	Governing Body		
Responsible department:	SLT		
Last review date:	October 2024	Last reviewed by:	M. Fishwick
Last updated:	June 2023	Last updated by:	A.Rawat
Next review due :	October 2025		

School Aims/Vision and Implementation

Carlinghow Academy aims to provide children with the opportunity to develop towards their full potential; academically, emotionally and socially:

- Providing the highest standard of education to enable all children equally to acquire the skills, knowledge and concepts relevant to their future.
- Promoting an ethos of care, mutual respect and support, where effort is valued and success celebrated.
- Enabling children to become active, responsible and caring members of the school and wider community.

The school works towards these aims by:

- Promoting high quality learning and attainment.
- Providing a high quality learning entitlement and environment.
- Valuing each other and ourselves.
- Working in partnership with parents and the community.
- Implementation of the whole school behaviour policy which encourages respect, inclusion and the right to feel safe
- A whole school focus to coincide with anti-bullying week to raise awareness among children, parents and staff

Equal Opportunities

Our school seeks to foster warm, welcoming and respectful environments, which allow us to question and challenge discrimination and inequality, resolve conflicts peacefully and work and learn free from harassment and violence.

We recognise that there are similarities and differences between individuals and groups but we will strive to ensure that our differences do not become barriers to participation, access and learning and to create inclusive processes and practices, where the varying needs of individuals and groups are identified and met. We therefore cannot achieve equality for all by treating everyone the same.

We will build on our similarities and seek enrichment from our differences and so promote understanding and learning between and towards others to create cohesive communities.

RATIONALE

- An effective drugs policy is essential for achieving awareness and knowledge regarding substance misuse and the skills to deal effectively with such issues within our community.
- For children to recognize the dangers of substance misuse it is essential for them to be educated regarding the definition of drugs, including medicines and their safe use. This will be addressed through the context of PSHE sessions.

This policy must be read in conjunction with the Child Safeguarding, Health &

Safety, Medicines, PSCHE and Privacy Notice.

SCHOOL ETHOS

In order to the above, all members of the school community need to work together towards the same goals and expectations. This includes governors, staff, children, parents and the wider community. As a community we need to recognise and understand the effects of illegal, legal and medicinal drugs and chemicals on our bodies and minds with the emphasis on keeping ourselves safe and healthy.

AIMS

- To prepare everyone in our community for the responsibilities and experiences of life whilst keeping our safety primary.
- To encourage self-motivation.
- To encourage competence and confidence by enabling pupils to develop their critical thinking and decision making skills.
- To encourage individuality in a safe and healthy environment.
- To deliver positive strategies which equip our children with the skills to cope responsibly in a society where drugs are part of everyday life.
- To allow children access to up to date information as and when they should need it with objective support for those who disclose situations.
- To ensure staff report drug related incidents including non-classroom based staff as this issue affects all aspects of our school community.
- The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it is up to date and relevant to our community.

BROAD GUIDELINES

- Whole school protocols should be current and support all members of the community based upon existing knowledge and understanding.
- To encourage all members of our community to explore attitudes towards drugs, drug use and drug users with mutual respect, self-discipline and social responsibility.
- To teach our children how to deal with the social and emotional aspects of life.
- To promote consistent strategies in identifying and responding to vulnerable families and offering them support in whatever way is thought appropriate to that individual and ensure that any support/plans are communicated efficiently to necessary parties.
- To deal effectively with occurrences of anti-social behaviour as a result of substance abuse on the school grounds.
- To develop understanding about rules and laws.
- To ensure policies and guidelines meet the needs of our pupils and school community.

TOOLS

- School rules focus on the positive, to encourage and maintain high self-esteem in all pupils.
- The above aims are achieved by using the Jigsaw programme and other appropriate resources as a whole school approach.
- SRE DFE guidance is followed.
- Health & Growth and Keeping Healthy is covered as part of the Science curriculum.

- The successful implementation of the policy is monitored by the PSHE coordinator and the Principal.
- Outside agencies support the delivery of awareness and safeguarding training.
- School subscribe to the Pol-Ed materials

DEALING WITH ILLEGAL OR UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES

Drug use is a matter which concerns the whole community as we all live in a drug orientated society, whether legal or illegal, in both a social or medical context. Unauthorised and illegal substances (any 'drug' brought into school without permission including alcohol) have no place in the school community and as our main concern is to safeguard health we will follow the following procedures:

- All matters will be dealt with in the presence of two adults, one of whom will be a member of the leadership team.
- Drugs of any kind found in the possession of any member of the school community will be handed to the Principal.
- This will then be identified or attempted to be identified as to whether the drug is illegal or unauthorised.
- Parents or Carers of children involved will be notified and if necessary the police will be informed
- Should it be felt necessary the Trust and LA will be notified if there is a publicity risk
- Information to the community may be necessary to re-assure them and to explain the procedures taken as soon as possible after the event.

DEALING WITH PARENTS OR CARERS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANY SUBSTANCE WHICH AFFECTS THEIR ABILITY TO KEEP THEMSELVES OR THEIR CHILD SAFE

- Staff will attempt to maintain a calm atmosphere should they be worried about releasing a child to the care of its parent.
- Attempts to make alternative arrangements for the child using their contact sheet will be made.
- If the parent/carer becomes abusive or violent, the police will be called alongside social services under the heading of child protection.
- Full records of any such incidents will be made and kept according to Safeguarding procedures
- If the parent or carer appears incapable of making a decision this will be made by the Principal