Beaufort Primary School

Drug Education Policy

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Health Education Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- PSHCE Policy

Introduction
At Beaufort Primary School we acknowledge that drugs affect all communities in modern society. We have a moral and legal obligation to the children in our care to address this issue and to ensure that we do all we can to:

- Inform pupils, parents and staff about the risks and consequences of drug and substance misuse, within the context of other substances – including alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, volatile substances and Class A drugs. – where appropriate.
- Teach young people from the age of four upwards – both in and out of formal education settings – the skills needed to resist pressure to misuse drugs and substances, including a more integrated approach to Health Education, with particular reference to DfEE and County Guidance.
- Help make the misuse of drugs and substances less culturally acceptable to young people, including the use of effective and targeted national and local publicity and information.
- Promote healthy lifestyles and positive activities not involving drugs and other substance misuse.
- Build on and disseminate good practice in identifying what works best in prevention and education activity.

Aims
In our school we aim through implicit and explicit learning experiences to:

- Increase pupils’ knowledge of the dangers of smoking, alcohol abuse, the use of solvents and drug abuse.
- Help pupils understand the beneficial part drugs can play in society.
- Teach children that all medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines.
- Educate pupils on how to make informed choices.
- Teach strategies to help pupils to resist pressure from their peers.
- Give pupils the confidence to encourage others to resist poor choices.

Effective teaching will increase pupils’ knowledge about alcohol, tobacco and other drug and substance misuse. It will also enable pupils to:

- Improve their self-esteem.
- Make informed choices and decisions.
- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility.
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others.
- Maintain and develop relationships.
- Develop self-confidence.
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations.
- Develop the motivation to succeed.
Within the taught and hidden curriculum i.e. the school ethos and environment, pupils should be given frequent and regular opportunities to reflect on feelings and to practise personal and interpersonal skills. We value and respect the learning that occurs in the community and in the home believing that these, alongside school links, are essential dimensions of drug education.

**Special Needs**
Drug Education is an important aspect of Health Education and the curriculum needs to meet the needs of all pupils, including those with identified Special Needs. Some of these pupils may be at greater risk and more susceptible to the potential dangers involved.

Some pupils may be taking medication and it is therefore important to stress the distinction between medically beneficial drugs and drug or substance misuse. The curriculum should equip these children with the life skills required to cope with the potential dangers.

**Health and Safety**
All forms of illegal substances are forbidden on the school premises. The school has a no smoking policy, which should be observed by all those who visit it. We rely on the support of all staff, governors and parents in implementing this policy. Any substances hazardous to health are kept safely away from pupils.

**Safeguarding**
If a child makes a disclosure regarding the inappropriate use of drugs then this should be recorded on a Record of Concern form and the safeguarding policy of the school followed.

**Medicines**
A list of children taking prescribed drugs – i.e. for asthma or diabetes – will be circulated to each member of staff and updated as required.

Asthma inhalers will be kept close to the child concerned in a specified basket in the classroom or area they are in. They should be taken by the child when required.

Medicines may only be taken at school if they are prescribed by a doctor and are required to be taken four times daily. Parents must notify the school in writing if such medicines need to be taken in school hours, giving a clear indication as to time and dose. All medicines must be kept in the office in a secure location. Children will be supervised by a member of staff when taking such medicines. If children are unable to self administer, the parents must take responsibility for administering the dose.

Children with lifelong medical conditions such as diabetes or allergies should not be disadvantaged or discriminated against in any way. Staff will receive training to administer specialised medication, including Epipens, when children with such conditions are in school.

Policy Amended: June 2015

Approved by Children and Learning Committee at its meeting on 10th July

Date for Review: Summer 2018