



**Campion School**

# **Drug Education Policy**

Dated: Nov 2024

Review: Nov 2026



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## Drug Education Policy

### **Policy details**

Date of policy: November 2024  
Date of next review: November 2026  
Review may involve: *e.g. School staff, pupils, parents, governors, local health care professional, etc.*

Member of staff responsible for overseeing that this policy is implemented and regularly reviewed: Steve Bolsover

Signature (Chair of governors):

Signature (Head teacher):

Date: November 2022

### **Relationship to other school policies**

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

Anti-bullying policy

Health and Safety policy

Safeguarding and Child Protection policy

Drugs Management and Sanctions policy

Behaviour policy

Equality and Diversity policy

Life Skills Education policy

**(NB – This policy is concerned with drugs education only. There is a separate drugs policy that deals with discipline relating to drugs incidents; this is entitled ‘Drugs Policy Management and Sanctions’).**

### **Introduction – why we need a drug education policy**

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- Reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of pupils and others who use the school
- Clarify the school's approach to drugs for all staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community
- Provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme and the management of incidents involving illegal and other unauthorised drugs
- Reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies of drug misuse prevention.

### **Developmental and dissemination process**

This policy was formulated by a working party consisting of the Head teacher, Religious Education and Life Skills (REAL) co-ordinator, Science co-ordinator and Governors.

The policy was informed by discussions with pupils during circle time and School Council meetings.

The draft policy was circulated to governors. An overview of the policy was discussed by the School Council.

The policy was amended in response to the comments and recommendations that arose through consultation and finally approved by the governing body.

The policy will be communicated via the school website. A copy of the policy will be held in the school office and is available for viewing.

### **Local and national guidance**

This policy has been developed from a draft local authority policy based on the following documents:

- Drugs: Guidance for Schools DfES 0092/2004
- Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education - Curriculum guidance for schools at Key Stage 1 (QCA 2002)
- Drug Education - Including Alcohol and Tobacco (NHSS, 2003)
- Quality Standards for Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco (Warwickshire LEA, 2004).

## **Where and to whom the policy applies**

This policy applies to all school staff, pupils, parents/carers, governors and other partner agencies working with the school. This policy applies to day and residential trips, and when schools are deemed in loco-parentis.

## **Definitions and terminology**

The term "drugs" refers to:

- All illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- All legal drugs, e.g. alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled), ketamine, khat and alkyl nitrites (known as poppers) and other substances as they arise.
- All over the counter and prescription medicines.

## **The school's stance towards drugs, health and the needs of pupils**

- Campion School presumes a zero tolerance of the recreational misuse of illegal and legal drugs during and around school hours, within and around the school site.
- Illegal and other unauthorised drugs are not acceptable in our school. The first concern in managing drugs is the health and safety of the school community.
- Students with medical need to use legal drugs during school time can do so, providing parents / guardians bring the minimum appropriate quantity of medication to the school office for safe keeping. In such a case medication should be brought to the office in an envelope clearly labelled with the details of the child concerned and relevant information. For further guidance, please refer to the school's Health and safety policy and Warwickshire Schools' Health Directory.

## **Our aims**

Drug education is major component of drug prevention. Drug prevention aims to:

- Minimise the number of young people engaging in drug use
- Delay the onset of first use
- Reduce the harm caused by drugs
- Enable those who have concerns about drugs to seek help.

## **Our objectives**

In order to achieve the aims of drug prevention, our drug education programme will:

- Increase pupils' knowledge and understanding of the risks and consequences of legal and illegal drugs
- Provide opportunities for pupils to explore their own and others' attitudes and values towards drugs and drug users
- Support pupils to develop their personal and social skills so they feel able to communicate effectively, recognise choices, make decisions and access help when needed

- Promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

## **Staff with key responsibility for drugs**

### **Head teacher**

The Headteacher will ensure that staff and parents are informed about this drug policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. The Headteacher will also ensure that staff receive training, so that they can teach confidently and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

### **REAL Coordinator**

The REAL Coordinator will liaise with external agencies regarding the school drug education programme, and ensure that all adults who work with pupils are aware of the school policy and work within this framework. The REAL Coordinator will monitor the policy on a day-to-day basis and report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

### **School staff**

Drug prevention is seen as a whole school issue. Every member of staff working in the school have a part to play in the implementation of the policy.

### **Site manager**

The site manager will support the member of staff responsible for health and safety; with internal and external risk assessments, as and when necessary. They will also ensure the site is free of drugs and drugs paraphernalia through routine checks, carried out on a regular basis.

### **Governors**

As part of their general responsibilities for the strategic direction of the school, governors have a key role to play in the development and regular review of our school's policy on drugs. Governors will be kept informed as to the efficacy of present drug education provision and involved in any changes to existing provision/policy that may need to be made.

## **Involvement of parents/carers**

The school encourages the involvement of parents/carers by:

- Making the school Drugs Education Policy available on the school website.
- Answering any questions parents may have about the drugs education their children receive in school
- Taking seriously any issue which parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for drugs education in the school
- Informing parents about the best practice known with regard to drugs education so that the parents can support the key messages being given to children at school.

## **Drug education curriculum**

The drug education elements of the National Curriculum Science Order are mandatory for all pupils of primary and secondary school age. These cover the role of medicines; the effects on the human body of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs; the abuse of alcohol; solvents and other drugs; the role of lung structure in gas exchange, including the effects of smoking.

## **Staff support and training**

During induction to our school, staff will be encouraged to gain a good understanding of the relationships and sex education policy and other related policies.

Teachers are provided with training as required to support their delivery of RSE and extend their confidence in doing so. The training available is kept in the CPD file and training needs are identified for individual staff through the appraisal system. The personal attitudes and beliefs of teachers will not influence their delivery of the RSE curriculum within the REAL Education framework. Staff who attend training are encouraged to disseminate learning.

## **Pupils vulnerable to drug misuse**

*(including those at risk of exclusion and those excluded from school)*

Drug education will be a priority for these pupils. It will be developed to address their specific needs, as many are more likely to be using drugs, many are at higher risk of developing problematic drug use and some may have been excluded as a result of a drug incident.

Teachers will:

- Focus on ways to reduce the harm drugs can cause.
- Involve a range of external contributors, as part of the planned programme, to add value by providing additional perspectives and approaches.
- Link with tier-2 and 3 services such as young people's drugs services, to provide targeted education, advice and support.
- Seek to develop pupils' self esteem, self worth, and basic skills such as literacy and numeracy to raise their life chances.
- Help pupils to access further information and support.

## **Confidentiality and handling disclosures**

Teachers, pupils and parents should be aware of the boundaries regarding confidentiality within the curriculum. Pupils must be made aware that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed and that they will be informed of all actions relating to their disclosure.

Health professionals are bound by their own codes of conduct to maintain confidentiality. When working within a classroom they are also bound by the school's policies. Outside the classroom situation, they can exercise their own professional judgement maintaining the pupil's best interests at all times.

Teachers cannot offer or guarantee absolute confidentiality, but should ensure pupils are informed of sources of confidential help, e.g. school nurse, counsellor, GP, advice services. If a pupil discloses information which is sensitive, not generally known, and which the pupil asks not to be passed on, the request will be honoured unless this is unavoidable in order for the teacher to fulfil their professional responsibilities. Only in the most exceptional circumstances will information be handled without parental knowledge. Where younger pupils are involved this will be grounds for serious concern and child protection issues should be addressed.

See the school's Confidentiality Policy and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy for further details.

### **Using outside visitors in school**

Outside visitors contribute to a planned drug education programme. For more details, refer to our school's Using Outside Visitors in School Policy.

### **The needs of pupils with special educational needs**

Care will be taken to ensure that the drug education curriculum meets the needs of individual pupils and takes into account their age, maturity, stage of development and personal and social influences. Appropriately differentiated materials and approaches will ensure that vulnerable pupils, including those with SEN, receive their entitlement to drug education.

Pupils with SEN may be more vulnerable to situations involving risk. Teachers will focus more on developing pupils' confidence and skills to manage situations that require making decisions about drugs. Teachers will pay particular attention to enabling pupils to seek help and support when they need it.

### **Management and co-ordination of the policy**

Our school's drug education programme is co-ordinated as part of REAL Education by Julie Gardner our REAL Education Co-ordinator and as part of Science by Kirsten Smith, our Science Co-ordinator. They are supported by Steve Bolsover as Deputy Headteacher (Safeguarding Lead) and Peter Forsey Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum Lead) within their senior management roles.

The senior member of staff responsible for dealing with drug related incidents is Steve Bolsover who is clear on all procedures and progressive steps in dealing with incidents should they arise.

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years as part of the school's rolling programme of policy reviews. The review will be led by the REAL Co-ordinator and supported by governors and the senior management team. The effectiveness of the policy will be judged according to quality of the written, oral and observed evidence available to demonstrate that the objectives stated above have been achieved.

### **Further information**

For further information about current initiatives and resources to support the drug education agenda visit the following websites:

- [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/drugs](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/drugs)