



## **DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY**

### **Introduction**

Drugs are defined as being either legal (alcohol, tobacco, over the counter and prescribed substances etc) or illegal (cannabis, heroin, LSD, cocaine etc).

### **Aim**

To equip pupils with the knowledge, understanding and skills that enable them to make positive choices that lead to a healthy life style.

### **Objectives**

In order to fulfil this aim pupils are:

- taught the differences between legal and illegal drugs.
- taught about the dangers of drugs and their misuse.
- made aware of the personal consequences, both within the school and the wider community, of being involved with drugs.
- encouraged to develop responsible attitudes to drugs and the skills of assertiveness needed to cope with peer pressure.
- encouraged and supported in seeking help and advice if they are misusing drugs or have concerns about the misuse of drugs by others through the School, local Support Agencies and National Helplines.
- helped to develop parenting skills in relation to prevention of drug misuse when they reach adulthood.

### **Method**

Drug education is delivered

- within the PSE programme at both key stages
- within the wider curriculum

### **Implementation**

The following methods may be used:

- Group work
- Debates/discussion
- Studying aspects of the law
- Text books/Fact sheets
- Role plays
- Scenarios
- Case studies
- Pupil produced written work/projects
- Video/DVD
- Outside Speakers/Theatre Groups
- Games
- Surveys/Questionnaires

### **School Response to drug related issues**

The School expects all pupils to respect the Home School Agreement that states, *“Pupils are prohibited from engaging in any form of substance abuse during the school day, in particular to be in possession of, distribute or be under the influence of, drugs (either legal or illegal) except where medically prescribed.”*

Any pupil who is involved in a drugs related incident faces the possibility of being permanently excluded.

The Headteacher has the right to take whatever action he considers appropriate in dealing with a drugs incident during the School day. In making his decision the Headteacher will take into account current guidelines from the Department of Education current at the time.