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STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST

HONLEY HIGH SCHOOL

ANTI DRUGS POLICY

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1. Introduction

Legal drugs form an important part of the society in which we live. People take them to enhance their lives and to eliminate disease and pain. In modern life there is widespread use of legal and illegal drugs both medically and socially. In this policy, the word “drug” shall be deemed to represent all mood changing substances both legal and illegal, including tobacco and alcohol, solvents, prescribed medicines, steroids and amyl nitrates.

2. General Information

2.1. Definition

‘A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave’ (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime)

This definition includes all illegal and legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco and medicines. The majority of young people of school age have never used an illegal drug. Of those who do experiment with illegal drugs very few will go on to become problem drug users. However, most will at some stage be occasional users of drugs for medicinal purposes and many will try tobacco and alcohol. Every school therefore has a responsibility to consider its response to drugs and all schools are expected to have a policy which sets out the school's role in relation to all drug matters. (DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools 2012)

Young people need help to gain appropriate skills to cope with a drug orientated society and be able to make informed, safe choices. Alcohol, tobacco and drug education should be a vehicle for addressing myths and misconceptions about drugs and drug taking.

2.2. The Context

Young people are constantly exposed to the issues regarding the use and misuse of drugs in our society. They therefore have an educational need to learn to live safely within a society in which there is widespread use and misuse of drugs.

None of the following applies to drugs which are prescribed for a student's own use by a medical practitioner.

2.3. Prescribed Medication

Medication that is required to be administered within the school day should be in a named and sealed bag, with prescription information and handed into the school nurse. Parents/Carers should contact the school nurse to establish timelines for the medication. Medication will be locked within the First Aid office and will be administered by the school nurse or relevant first aid trained staff member.

3. The Honley High Response

Our school does not condone the possession, supply or misuse of any illegal drug on or off school premises.

The school recognises that Drugs fall into three distinct categories;

- Those it is legal to possess and to use: tobacco, alcohol, volatile substances, such as solvents and glues
- Those it is illegal to possess, supply or use, such as cannabis, ecstasy, LSD, amphetamines, cocaine, heroin
- Those it is legal to obtain as prescribed medicines but which have the potential to cause harm, either if misused or obtained illegally (e.g. by theft from prescribed users)

Despite the varying opinions and personal practices of parents and families in relation to these categories of drugs, we see no place in school for students to be in possession of or experiencing the effects of such substances.

4. Drugs Education Strategy

Underlying principles Honley High School believes, in line with government guidelines, that all students have the right to alcohol, tobacco and drug education. We believe that this education should be pro-active and that “just say no” and “shock-horror” techniques have been proven ineffective. Therefore, when information is delivered, it is done in a clear and honest manner without encouraging experimentation at any level. As part of this strategy, it is hoped that harm from taking risks will be minimised.

Honley High School aims to ensure that as many staff as possible who are employed on the site should have access to appropriate training to deal with drug related incidents and/or alcohol, tobacco and drug education.

5. Drug Education Aims/Outcomes

To encourage students to choose healthy lifestyles in line by:

1) Equipping them with accurate and unbiased knowledge about drugs including:

- Effects on health
- Related social issues
- The legal position on drug possession, dealing and using Science Curriculum programs for both KS3 and KS4

2) To enable students to make their own informed choices about their behaviour by:

- Exploring issues and attitudes towards drugs and drug use
- Developing strong personal and interpersonal skills, together with a sense of responsibility and self-esteem

3) To ensure that students, their parents/carers as well as staff at the school are aware of the support agencies and networks available to those who find themselves in trouble, directly or indirectly.

These outcomes reflect the overall school aims, alongside our aims for effective personal, social, health and economic education. The science, drama and life departments also have a key role to play, as well as within the school's approach to health education and the healthy schools programme.

Alcohol, tobacco and drug education is taught in KS3 CREATE lessons. At KS4, a module of alcohol, tobacco and drug education is delivered as a discrete unit by the CREATE department and links are made between drugs, alcohol and tobacco education and relationship and sex education.

Supporting and Educating:

- CREATE curriculum

Honley High School also have:

- Year group assemblies on positive choices
- Access to specialist support from Locala Nurses
- Close working relationship with The Base
- Close links with the police re-education and the law (including home visits)

6. Issues of Confidentiality in Drug Education

In all teaching situations, ground rules should be set so students are aware that complete confidentiality cannot be offered in the majority of cases. If information is 'disclosed' which might indicate danger to a student, staff are obliged to pass this information onto the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Staff should be aware that the Police have the right to ask for information 'disclosed' by students.

7. Outside Speakers

Outside speakers can be useful as part of the alcohol, tobacco and drug education programme, but are not used to replace the teacher. Speakers are recommended by healthy school workers, other schools or the Police and are briefed before speaking to the students. The class teacher will always be present. The visiting speaker protocol should be used to ensure the quality of all visiting speakers.

8. The Central Aims of the Drugs Education Strategy

The central aims of our Drugs Education Strategy are:

- To give our students the facts, knowledge, skills and confidence to make informed and responsible choices now and later in life about lifestyles
- To have a full appreciation of the benefits of a healthy and safe lifestyle
- Drugs Education in the school is co-ordinated by the Head of CREATE

The main but not exclusive vehicle for the delivery of Drugs Education is the CREATE programme. This emphasises, in all aspects of its curriculum, is the nurturing of self-confidence and self-esteem, and to give students sufficient objective information to enable young people to make rational personal decisions.

The Drugs Education work of the school, actively builds links with appropriate agencies in the community, including the Police and Advice and Counselling services.

9. The Management of Drugs Related Incidents

9.1. General Circumstances

All members of staff are required to be vigilant in relation to all matters of health, welfare, safety and security. The effective operation of the school's pastoral system depends on all colleagues sharing this commitment and being prepared to raise concerns with senior colleagues and those with designated responsibilities.

All students are also encouraged and reminded to be aware of the needs of their fellow students and to feel sufficiently confident to discuss problems or concerns with members of staff.

Where a member of staff has grounds for concern, they will normally be expected to bring those to the attention of the Assistant Headteacher (Behaviour), and/or the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will alert the Headteacher of the situation.

9.2. Establishing the Facts

Establishing a clear understanding of the facts is an essential first step before deciding on any course of action. Because of the sensitivity surrounding these issues, unsubstantiated allegation can cause great difficulty. Periodically, the school receives information from anonymous sources, typically someone claiming to be a parent or friend of the school. Every effort is made to establish the identity of such informants. It is difficult to manage successfully 'rumours' or 'tip-offs', however well intended.

An investigation into an allegation will normally be conducted by the Assistant Headteacher (Behaviour) and/or Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or Head of Year.

9.3. Action to be Taken

A variety of circumstances may arise, each of which requires a different response. In determining the appropriate response, the members of staff dealing with it will be mindful of pastoral and legal considerations. Searches are permitted both of the individual and:

- A. Drugs are discovered on school premises but not on a person**
 - The drugs will be placed in a secure place
 - The police will be informed and arrangements made for disposal

- B. Drugs related material, such as syringes, needles etc are discovered on school premises but not on a person**
 - As above but with particular attention to safety in handling sharp objects

- C. A student is found in possession of drugs but with no evidence of being under the influence of the drug**
 - Investigation
 - Involvement of parents
 - Return to parents of legal substances (e.g. alcohol) or arrange disposal
 - Involvement of police if student is in possession of illegal drugs or in illegal possession of prescribed drugs

- D. A student is found in possession of drug related materials**
 - As above, with involvement of police if investigation suggests this is appropriate

- E. A student is suspected of buying or using a drug or alcohol (including journey to and from school)**
 - Ensure safety of individual and treat as a medical emergency, if appropriate

- Try to confiscate any further supply of substance to ensure safety. If successful, store and record
- Investigate once student is able to participate in investigation
- Contact police
- Contact parents

F. A student is suspected of supplying drugs

- Establish whether the substance in question is legal or illegal
- Attempt to establish whether the drug is for personal use or for supply
- Involve parents
- If substance is illegal, contact police who will set up a criminal investigation

Following investigation, scenarios **C, D, E** and **F** are likely to result in the administration of a sanction (in accordance with the School Behaviour Policy). Sanctions available include suspension from school or (in relation to scenario **F** specifically) permanent exclusion. Parents will **always** be informed and, dependent upon circumstance, there may be additional Police involvement.

It should be noted that:

- Society views with grave concern the use of illegal drugs. It is much more indulgent in regard to alcohol and tobacco
- The school is an educative community and as such aims to change unacceptable or damaging behaviour when it occurs
- The school needs to be prepared to distinguish between the self-inflicted damage suffered by an individual or group of individuals who misuse drugs and the damage done by those who abuse the school by making it a place to profit from the vulnerability of others
- The school will examine and deal with each situation on its merits but will not baulk at the possibility of using the ultimate sanction of permanent exclusion to deal with deliberate criminal activity and drug peddling

10. The Law

Students most commonly commit two drug related offence under the *Misuse of Drugs Act 1971*:

1. Possession of a controlled/illegal drug (1811445568). Supplying a controlled/illegal drug
2. Under the *Crime and Disorder Act 1998*, managers of premises can commit an offence by knowingly allowing anyone on the premises to provide, supply or offer to supply a controlled drug

11. Controlled Drugs (Categorisation)

Class A:

Heroin, Methadone, L.S.D, Cocaine (crack), Ecstasy, 'processed' magic mushrooms, Injectable amphetamine, morphine

Class B:

Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Codeine, Ritalin, Cannabis

Class C:

Tranquillisers, Anabolic Steroids. GHB

12. The Role of the Governors

The Governors receive regular and up to date information regarding any drug issues within the school. The designated safeguarding governor is consulted in policy development and oversees the drug education programme and will contribute to appeals and exclusions.

13. Behaviour on School Site

13.1. Smoking/Vaping

By law, the school site is a designated "NO SMOKING" area. Smoking or the use of a 'vape' is regarded as a breach of school discipline. Students caught smoking or vaping will have their cigarettes or vape removed, have their parent contacted and will receive an appropriate sanction in accordance with the School Behaviour Policy.

13.2. Alcohol

The consumption of alcohol by students is strictly prohibited on the school site and in the vicinity of the school and whilst on trips, visits and residential.

Students who arrive on site after consuming alcohol or caught consuming alcohol on site will be removed from lessons, and their parent/carer will be asked to collect the student.

14. School Trips and Residential

Students and staff on school trips are expected to adhere to the same standards of conduct that are expected whilst on the school site. Breaches of discipline whilst attending a school trip or residential will be managed in accordance with the policies and procedures of the school. Staff members should not consume alcohol whilst in the company, or in the supervision of students during any event or residential.

15. Staff and Drugs

Staff members that need help with drug related problems including smoking and alcohol issues, should contact a member of SLT to be signposted for appropriate assistance. Help can also be obtained from the national drug helpline, or FRANK.

Staff found under the influence of drugs, including to the detriment of their work, face disciplinary action.

16. Conclusions

- The use or misuse of drugs in our society is a complex issue. Dealing with the issue, the school requires a measured and sensitive approach
- Honley High School has developed a range of responses, incorporating both sanctions and counselling that reflect the breadth and scope of drug-related issues within wider society. The school accepts its responsibility to support and help those who misuse drugs
- Through its educational and pastoral offer, Honley High School will provide children with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions regarding their health and wellbeing and will prepare them for responsible adulthood
- In addition, the school accepts its responsibility to support and those members of the community that face the challenges of addiction or other associated health issues relating to the misuse of drugs and will guide them to access services that may enable them to recover
- Honley High School fulfils its obligations as set out in the Education Reform Act

Appendix 1

Useful Organisations

Addaction is one of the UK's largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents.

Website: www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services.

Tel: 020 7553 7640

Email: admin@adfam.org.uk

Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Concern works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems

Tel: 020 7264 0510. Email: contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk

Website: www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) is a campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco.

Tel: 020 7739 5902

Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Website: www.ash.org.uk

The Base is a free and confidential drug and alcohol service for young people up to the age of 21 in Kirklees.

Tel: 01484 541589 from 09:00 to 19:00 on Mondays and 09:00-17:00 Tuesday to Friday.

Email stephen.yates@cgl.org.uk

Website: <https://www.changegrowlive.org/the-base-kirklees/info>

Children's Legal Centre operates a free and confidential legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people.

Tel: 01206 877910

Email: clc@essex.ac.uk

Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Children's Rights Alliance for England is a charity working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Email: info@crae.org.uk

Website: www.crae.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm.

Tel: 020 7307 7450

Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk/

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking.

Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drug Education Forum – this website contains a number of useful papers and briefing sheets for use by practitioners.

Website: www.drugeducationforum.com/

DrugScope is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum.

Tel: 020 7520 7550

Email: info@drugscope.org.uk

Website: www.drugscope.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs.

24 Hour Helpline: 0800 776600

Email: frank@talktofrank.com

Website: www.talktofrank.com

Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives.

Tel: 020 7739 8494

Email admin@mentoruk.org

Website: www.mentoruk.org.uk

National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives.

Tel: 020 7843 6000

Website: www.ncb.org.uk

Family Lives is a charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects.

Tel: 0800 800 2222

Website: <http://familylives.org.uk/>

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse) is a national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people.

Tel: 01785 817885

Information line: 01785 810762

Email: information@re-solv.org

Website: www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Advice

Helpline: 0800 169 0 169

Website: <http://smokefree.nhs.uk>

Stars National Initiative offers support for anyone working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse.

Website: www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk

Youth Offending Teams – Local Youth Offending Teams are multi-agency teams and are the responsibility of the local authority, who have a statutory duty to prevent offending by young people under the age of 18.

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/youth-offending-team>