

Drugs Education Policy

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Owner	Managing Director, NAS Education and Children's Services and NAS Academies Trust
Policy Lead(s)	Deputies
Department	Services

Scope

This policy relates to the adoption in NAS schools of a whole school approach on the issue of drugs, as part of the commitment to being healthy schools.

This policy does not apply to the use of alcohol and tobacco by young people aged 18 and over in Children's Homes. Please refer to the NAS Policy on Alcohol, Drugs & Solvent Abuse - SO-0009.

Drugs Education - Policy Summary

Drugs are those that are legal, such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents, 'over the counter' and prescribed drugs, and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, heroin, crack/cocaine and LSD.

Illegal drugs are not permitted to be used, bought, sold or otherwise obtained on the school and residential premises, including when pupils/students are taking part in off-site visits. These rules apply to staff working at and for the school.

Exceptions will be made for pupils/students who need to take prescribed medicines. Please refer to the NAS Policy on Alcohol, Drugs & Solvent Abuse - SO-0009 and Safe Management of Medication Policy SO-0169

Drugs education will form part of the curriculum, included in Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Policy (PSHCE) -SO-0126. The Scottish equivalent is 'Curriculum for Excellence, Health and Wellbeing, Substance misuse'. These reflect knowledge and understanding, attitudes and personal skills. Drug education plans will be tailored to individual need and individual level of understanding according to each pupil/student's level of ability and age. Plans will:

- Enable pupils/students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing their knowledge, exploring their own and other people's attitudes and developing and practicing skills.
- Promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles and keeping self-safe.
- Provide accurate information about legal and illegal substances.
- Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- Encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance abuse.
- Widen understanding about related health and social issues, e.g. sex and sexuality, crime, HIV and AIDS.
- Seek to minimise the risk that users and potential users may face.
- Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.
- Seek to prepare our pupils/students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- Seek to develop in all pupils/students the ability to reject anything that could be potentially harmful to their health, future prospects and to nurture respect for the law.

Teachers will have access to on-going support and training as part of their own professional development and teaching materials are reviewed for quality and relevance.

Equal Opportunities

The NAS respects the free choice of individuals but has a responsibility to protect colleagues or clients from the hazards of drug abuse.

Drugs Education - Procedure

1. Any substance misuse incident will be considered individually and a variety of responses will be necessary to deal with incidents. The school will consider very carefully the implications of any action it may take, seeking to balance the interests of the individual involved, the other school members and the local community. Permanent exclusion may be warranted as a final sanction when all other reasonable steps have been taken.
2. Any serious incident should be reported to the Managing Director, NAS Education and Children's Services and NAS immediately, and if appropriate the NAS Press Office who will liaise with the media.

3. In instances involving substance misuse or supply on the premises, the Principal will inform the parents at the earliest opportunity and then work together to support the pupil/student involved.
4. There is no legal obligation to inform the police, though they may be able to give relevant support and advice. However, a school cannot knowingly allow its premises to be used for the production or supply of any controlled drug, or the or ingestion; consumption; intake of a controlled substance. Where it is suspected that a controlled substance is continuing to be sold, stored or prepared on the premises, details regarding those involved and as much information as possible, will be passed to the police.
5. From 1 September 2010, school staff have the power to search any students suspected of carrying banned drugs. This power allows school staff to search for substances they reasonably believe are illegal but which may, after testing, be found to be legal.

Measure

HMIE Ofsted, Autism Accreditation, Managing Director, NAS Education and Children's Services and NAS Quality assurance reviews.

Drugs Education - Reference

Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998

Department for Education: Drugs: Guidance for Schools' 2012

Drug Advice for School - 2014

Education Reform Act 1988

Education Act 1997

Human Rights Act 1998

Disability Discrimination Act 2001

Health and Safety at Work, etc Act 1974, Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992

Purchaser Contracts

KCSiE 2019

Other relevant policies and guidance

Curriculum Policy (SO-0109)

Alcohol, Drugs & Solvent Abuse Policy (SO-0009)

Safe Management of Medication SO-0169

Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Policy - PSHCE (SO-0126)

Ofsted

Department for Education: 'Screening, Searching and Confiscation – Schools' Guidance, July 2013

The Importance of Teaching: Schools White Paper; Nov 2010

Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) - Tel: 0207 739 5902 - www.ash.org.uk

FRANK – www.talktofrank.com; Tel: 0800 77 66 00; SMS: 82111

Drink Aware – www.drinkaware.co.uk; 0207 766 9900

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) - www.nice.org.uk

Firstassist, Telephone [0800 716 017](tel:0800716017), Website www.firstassistonline.com
Children and Families Act 2014