



## **Hythe Primary School Substance Use and Misuse Policy**

The school is committed to the health and safety of its children, staff and visitors and will take action to safeguard their well-being. We believe we have a duty to inform and educate on the consequences of substance misuse as well as provide guidelines for substance use. Through a wider focus of Personal, Social and Health Education and Science children will acquire and apply the skills, knowledge and develop attitudes in order to live healthily and to make informed decisions when considering the use and misuse of substances. We believe in partnership with parents therefore effective communication and co-operation are essential to the implementation of this work.

### **Aims**

- promoting an individual's self esteem
- enabling children to make responsible, informed and healthy choices
- increasing awareness and understanding of the implications and possible legal, social, economic and health consequences of use and abuse of substances
- identifying sources of appropriate support

### **Curriculum**

The substance use and misuse curriculum is taught through PSHE and Science. See curriculum maps and 'PSHE' overview. Year 6 children may also be given talks by a local youth group around the themes of substance misuse including anti-smoking, the effects of alcohol and the use of 'psychoactive substances'.

There is a Single Point of Contact PCSO attached to the school who is available to visit termly to deliver information regarding a range of issues (including substance use and misuse) in a child-friendly manner.

### **Dealing with drug-related incidents**

- The school will consider each substance incident individually and recognises that a variety of responses will be necessary to deal with incidents.
- Any hearsay, suspicious behaviour or incident involving inappropriate use of substances should be reported to Headteacher or member of Senior Leadership Team. This will be logged and may be followed up with parents or statutory outside agencies in line with the school's Child Protection Policy.
- Any children involved can be persuaded to voluntarily produce any substance.
- The school will work alongside statutory outside agencies to support both children and parents. Sanctions will be imposed depending on the severity of the incident.
- Any inappropriate substances found on or around the school premises should be reported to the Headteacher or member of Senior Leadership Team who will log the date, substance, action taken and arrange with the police for disposal.
- Any inappropriate substances found during an offsite activity should be reported to the Group Leader and appropriate measures taken to protect children.
- Regarding the welfare of staff, the school will follow the County Council Policy on Drug and Alcohol Misuse as part of its Health and Safety Policy.

**Date Agreed by Governing Body: 28.11.2013**

**To Be Reviewed: Annually**

**Last Reviewed: Nov 2025**

**Next review : Nov 2026**