



## Alcohol and Drugs Education Policy

The Alcohol and Drugs Education Policy was developed as part of a consultation process involving the following people: pupils, staff, parents and Governors of the School, based on best practice advice from Lancashire County Council and the SCARF scheme. The following policy document is a starting point for discussion and further improvement.

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by: Mrs Linda Pye (Headteacher) in consultation with the Leadership Team and a nominated Governor.

It should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- PSHE and Citizenship
- Curriculum
- Health and Safety
- Child Protection and Safeguarding

<b>Policy Created:</b>	May 2016		
<b>First Presented to Governors for approval:</b>	May 2016		
<b>Proposed Review Cycle/Next Date:</b>	3 Year	November 2025	
<b>Approved by (Headteacher)</b>		<b>Approved by (Governor)</b>	
<b>Date:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Policy Review History</b>			
<b>Date:</b> October 2019	<b>Date:</b> November 2022	<b>Date:</b> September 2025	
<b>Key Changes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Amendments to Vision Statement</li><li>• Removal of Life Education Bus Visits</li></ul>	<b>Key Changes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inclusion and reference to the SCARF Scheme (Updated PSHE scheme of work)</li></ul>	<b>Key Changes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use of the term 'legal' and 'illegal' in the aims section.</li></ul>	
<b>Presented to Governors:</b> Curriculum Committee 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	<b>Presented to Governors:</b> Curriculum Committee 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	<b>Presented to Governors:</b> Curriculum Committee 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	

## Ryelands School – Our Mission Statement

### **RYELANDS PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

Ryelands is a welcoming community school where care and nurture, alongside high expectations and challenge, enable the pupils to progress and achieve academically, and empower the wider school community to develop and thrive.

We work with many partners to provide a well-resourced, stable and supportive hub extending into the community, creating positive relationships based on inclusivity, trust and mutual respect, as well as growth.

Ryelands offers an engaging and aspirational curriculum, based on the Primary National Curriculum and the Early Years Statutory Framework. Our curriculum is adapted to the unique place where we live and the skills and values we promote. Our curriculum, alongside exceptional teaching, inspires a love of school and learning.

At Ryelands, pupils are encouraged and challenged by staff to **imagine, believe, achieve.**

## OPENING STATEMENT

At Ryelands Primary and Nursery School we acknowledge the importance of our pastoral role in the welfare of the pupils and the school community. In accordance with our school mission statement we believe that preparing children for the opportunities and challenges of adult life will cover education and action to safeguard their well-being.

This will include drug awareness where we aim to educate and inform, and to provide pupils with knowledge and understanding of the issues involved.

This policy considers current national and local guidelines and is linked to related school policies: PSHE, Healthy Eating, Behaviour, Child Protection and Science Teaching and Learning Policies.

The policy is defined for the school day, including all educational visits.

## DEFINITION OF SUBSTANCES

The term 'drug' refers to:

- legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents/volatile substances
- medicines – prescription and 'over the counter'
- illegal substances
- recognition that any drug can be potentially dangerous

## CURRICULUM ISSUES

The PSHE subject leader is responsible for planning, resourcing and maintaining the programme of study. Content and delivery is in line with agreed standards and the SCARF scheme. Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme will be appropriate to the age and experience of the pupils. Drug education is primarily taught within the school's PSHE programme (SCARF) and the statutory elements of the Science National Curriculum.

## AIMS

- to create a positive climate in which teaching and learning take place where pupils feel comfortable to discuss their perceptions of illegal and legal drug use.
- to help raise and maintain pupil self-esteem to develop knowledge and understanding of drugs and medicines and how they are used/misused.
- to provide a variety of learning experiences encouraging the development of personal skills and the exploration of values and attitudes.
- to develop decision making and risk assessment skills.

- to enable pupils to recognise positive and negative influences.
- to encourage pupils to develop healthy lifestyles.
- to use 'active' teaching and learning methods which are predominantly pupil centered.

#### **VISITORS AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

The school believes that visitors and outside agencies can make a positive contribution to the curriculum, however care is taken to ensure that their input integrates with the teacher led programme and teachers remain present during lessons. Visitors and agencies contributing to drug education liaise with the PSHE coordinator prior to the visit. Visitors are aware of the drug education and confidentiality policies.

#### **SUBSTANCE – RELATED INCIDENTS**

*Note: the school is required to specify the following procedures within the policy.*

The management of drug-related situations are coordinated through the Headteacher. In the event of a substance related incident (within school, during the use of the building by other groups or during residential or day visits):

- substance-related incidents will be taken seriously
- each incident will be considered individually based on the particular set of circumstances
- the school will balance sanctions, support and education to ensure the wellbeing of the school community
- a range of responses / sanctions may be used including the involvement of outside agencies
- procedures for an emergency apply when a pupil or adult is at immediate risk of harm – see Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures
- due regard will be given to the confidentiality policy
- the incident and school's response will be accurately recorded and stored in a secure place.

#### **DRUG MISUSING PARENTS**

Where school becomes aware of family drug use, an appropriate agency will be contacted for advice. Issues of confidentiality will be carefully considered.

*Note: children of drug using parents are identified as an at-risk group. However, drug use by parents does not in itself indicate child neglect or abuse.*

#### **SUPPORT FOR STAFF**

School personnel are not immune from substance related problems. As the LA guidance states, school management should provide relevant information and access to support for all members of the school community.

#### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

Refer to the Health & Safety Policy with particular reference to:

- procedures for the storage of potentially hazardous materials
- checking of the school and its grounds.
- provision for first aid and equipment

#### **TRAINING**

The school recognises the importance of appropriate training for the coordinator and staff. The Headteacher will ensure that all staff are adequately supported and trained.

#### **HEADTEACHER and GOVERNING BODY**

The Headteacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Body, LA, parents and agencies. The Headteacher is also the teacher with responsibility for drugs education.

The Governing Body has been involved in the development of this policy and is actively involved in responses to this issue.

**PARENTS**

The school considers that the support of parents / carers is essential, ensuring that parents /carers are consulted in policy matters and that they are informed of developments in the school's programme.