

# **BOLDON SCHOOL**

## **GOVERNOR'S POLICY ON DRUGS**

### 1. The School Position

The school recognises the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people and through the general ethos of the school will support action to safeguard the health and welfare of everyone on site. (see statement of Purpose and School Aims.)

This policy is to enable staff, students, parents and anyone associated with the school to clearly understand the school's position on drugs. The school is actively opposed to the misuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school and the illegal supply of those substances.

### 2. What do we mean by "drugs"

In this policy the term 'substance' refers to any legal or illegal substance taken into the body, that changes the way a person feels or behaves. Clearly, the term includes illegal drugs, medicinal products, alcohol, volatile substances and tobacco.

### 3. Principals and Practice

As part of the Pastoral Curriculum there are clear approaches, which are developmental from Year 7 to 11. They include teaching guidelines for all pastoral staff, co-ordinated by Heads of Year and those named in the PSHCE Programme booklet. This is the pastoral programme taught by staff and updated each Year.

A wide variety of visiting speakers who are specialists in these areas are used at appropriate times. They provide different perspectives and information to enhance pupil learning experiences.

### 4. Staff Training

Staff Training is continuous as part of the INSET Policy. It takes the form of general education and specific training for the Drug Co-ordinator, Directors of Learning and Assistant Directors of Learning, LMS/DL which is designed to increase teacher confidence, awareness and knowledge. Time will be allocated for work on drugs education, during one training day annually. Outside agencies/advisors will be involved ie. Mr A Smith – Local Authority.

Mr Clements, Director of Learning, is responsible for co-ordinating the different elements, within the curriculum and the National Healthy Schools Standard.

Subject teachers are able to incorporate these issues into their teaching, as and when they arise, either as part of the curriculum or the conduct of lessons. This does not preclude our legal obligation for spiritual, moral cultural (mental and physical development of pupils). Please see the current PSHCE programme.

## 5. Management of Incidents

The School recognises the duty of care owed towards everyone who uses the site. Members of staff or anyone else using the site should report any incidents to the Drugs Co-ordinator or the Head Teacher who will discuss each incident and the context in which it occurred and take the appropriate action. The Governors have endorsed the Substance Use and Misuse Guidelines from the local authority subject to the following:

- That the Head Teacher will normally inform parents if a pupil is involved with a substance related incident.
- That the Head Teacher will exclude a pupil for possessing or misusing an illegal drug substance. (In the first instance a fixed term exclusion, subject to the outcome of investigations, which may become permanent).
- That the Head Teacher will involve Police on any such substance related incident.

This school is aware of the needs to maintain good contact with the Health and Police Authorities.

## 6. Premises Issues

This policy is also to be used, by the Community Association Centre Manager within their own disciplinary procedures. The Manager will be trained.

No alcohol should be consumed by anyone on the site under 18 years of age. We expect staff to maintain a professional position on this issue and that of smoking on premises. The school adopted a no-smoking policy 12/02/98. Staff should be aware of the role models they are expected to present to young people at all times.

## 7. School Excursions

School educational visits and excursions at home and abroad of whatever duration, are included in this policy. The leader of a foreign trip would be expected to make decisions under our laws if an incident occurs.

## 8. Communications

The responsibility for communicating the policy is shared by the full Senior Leadership Team together with the school Drugs Co-ordinator and Governors.

Pupils will be made aware of the policy as part of the Pastoral Programme delivered by all form tutors and Directors of Learning also through assemblies and health education. Staff will be informed through policy discussion information included in the staff handbook and during in-service education.

The school Drugs Co-ordinator will liaise with all relevant agencies and keep Senior Leadership, Heads of Year and Governors informed. Parents will be made aware that such a policy exists through statements and information given at meetings, interviews, other discussions, and through 'A Guide for Parents' published annually for new pupils as well as being available on request.

This policy will be reviewed annually by Governors.

South Tyneside Local Authority has its own 'Substance Use and Misuse Guidelines' revised in March 2001. A copy is available from the Head Teacher.