



Weston Green
School

Drug and Alcohol Policy

Reviewed: Autumn 2015, Autumn 2016

Next review: Autumn 2017

Weston Green School is committed to promoting a healthy, safe environment, in which physical and mental well-being, good citizenship and respect for the law can flourish. We believe that it is important to deliver a clear, consistent moral framework that promotes the safety and well-being of the whole school community. The school recognises its responsibility to teach pupils about drugs and alcohol and associated dangers at an appropriate level.

Aims

- To equip pupils with the knowledge they need in order to make appropriate and informed choices.
- For pupils to learn that all medicines are drugs, but that not all drugs are medicines
- To raise awareness of prescription medicines as well as other legal substances (e.g. tobacco / alcohol) and to have some understanding of their effect

Our programme of learning, incorporated within the PSHE curriculum, enables pupils to develop strategies to resist peer pressure and make appropriate decisions in relation to the use (and misuse) of drugs, alcohol and tobacco in order to keep themselves safe and healthy.

The provision of a supportive environment, where pupils feel able to engage in open discussion, ask questions and feel confident about asking for help if necessary, is central to the ethos of Weston Green School as well as to successful learning in all areas of PSHE education.

Drug and alcohol programme of study

This programme of learning runs across KS1 and KS2, comprising three sessions in each year group as follows:

- Yr 1 – Medicines and People Who Help Us
- Yr 2 – Keeping Safe
- Yr 3 – Smoking
- Yr 4 – Alcohol

- Yr 5 – Legal and Illegal Drugs
- Yr 6 – Preventing Early Use

The programme gives pupils information about drugs including medicines – in KS1 learning is limited to this and how to keep themselves safe and healthy.

In KS2 pupils begin to learn about smoking and alcohol, with appropriate discussion and the opportunity for pupils to ask questions. In upper KS2, as pupils prepare for the transition to senior school, they are introduced to illegal drugs and the differences between these and legal drugs. They also build on their learning to develop strategies to keep themselves safe and to resist pressure from others.

Alcohol and tobacco on school premises

Weston Green School is a public place; smoking is therefore illegal on site for everyone, including staff, parents and visitors.

We will offer wine to parents and guardians at certain formal events, including plays and concerts to which they are invited.

It is highly unlikely given the age of the pupils at Weston Green School that there will be drug or alcohol related incidents, however should one occur the Headmaster and Deputy Head will be responsible for coordinating the management of any incident, offering sources of support and, where necessary, liaising with outside agencies.

Parents who misuse drugs and/or alcohol

The school recognises that some of its pupils may have a parent whose drug use (legal and/or illegal) is problematic. The child's welfare in this is paramount and the school will act to support them in a variety of ways, both practically and emotionally. Key staff involved in such support will have received guidance and training in this area.

If a member of staff suspects that a parent collecting their child from school and intending to drive is intoxicated, advice given by the police will be followed – in this situation staff will make every possible effort to help the parent think of alternative and safer ways of getting home. This might include walking home, getting somebody else to collect them or calling a taxi.

If the parent becomes aggressive and insists on driving, on no account should staff put their own safety or security at risk. Staff should note down details of the car and phone the police with this information as soon as possible.

Staff should also report the incident to the DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) as soon as possible so that the child's other parent or carer can be notified.

Other relevant policies:

- Safeguarding policy
- PSHE policy