

DRUGS POLICY

Version 5.0

Review by People Committee:	1 st February 2021
Adopted by Governing Body:	22 nd February 2021
Next Full Review Due:	Spring 2025

Reviewer:	Chris Drugan
Governor Link:	Safeguarding Governor

DRUGS POLICY

East Barnet School, Chestnut Grove, East Barnet, Hertfordshire EN4 8PU

Statement of Principle

East Barnet School aspires to give members of the school community the knowledge necessary to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and to develop the skills and attitudes needed to relate this to their own actions, both now and in their future lives. *This policy works in conjunction East Barnet School's behaviour policy, child protection policy and school journey visits policy.*

Definition of a Drug

For the purposes of this policy a drug is defined as “any substance taken into the body (except food) which alters the functions of the mind or body”.

This includes tobacco, alcohol, solvents, illegal drugs, recreational drugs and new Psychoactive Substances (Legal highs).

Purpose

The purpose of the school Drugs Policy is to:

- Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school;
- Reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of students and the school community;
- Clarify the school's approach to drugs for staff, students, governors, parents/carers and the wider community;
- Give guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug education programme;
- Enable staff to manage drugs on school premises, and any incidents that occur, with confidence and consistency, and in the best interests of those involved;
- Ensure that the response to incidents involving drugs complements the overall approach to drug education and values and ethos of the school;
- Provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme and management of incidents involving illegal and other authorised drugs;
- Reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies.

The policy applies to all staff, students, parents/carers, visitors to the school and partner agencies working in the school whether they are on school site, school visits, travelling to and from the school or representing the school in any way.

This policy takes account of all relevant legislation.

Students

1. Students must not be in possession of or found to be supplying any drug or drug paraphernalia, or consume any drug whilst at school or on the way to and from school. In cases where a student has been found to be in possession of either an illegal drug or drug paraphernalia, the Associate Deputy Headteacher will be informed and they may inform the police and implement a MASH referral and refer to external professional agencies if deemed appropriate. Parents and carers will also be informed unless the school feels that the student is at risk.
2. Students must not be in possession of or consume any drug whilst on any school activity.
3. East Barnet School is a smoke free school: smoking, including the use of vapes is not allowed on the school premises at any time. Parents and carers will be informed if any student is found to be smoking and a referral to speak with the school nurse will be arranged to support them.
4. Students who request help for a drug associated problem will not be sanctioned, instead support will be provided by the school by making a referral to appropriate external support services.

School visits/school trips

The school Drug Policy will apply equally on any school visit and therefore, students and parents/carers should be advised of this in writing prior to the trip.

Searching students

Students may be searched without their consent where the school has reasonable grounds for suspecting or have been informed by an external source that a student is under the influence of drugs, or in possession of drugs or associated drug paraphernalia. At least two of the following members of staff must be present: The Associate Deputy Headteacher, the School Behaviour Manager, The Head of Year or linked Assistant Headteacher or the Safer Schools Officer.

When conducting a search, the school will follow the guidance set out in DfE Searching, Screening and Confiscation, Advice for headteachers, school staff and governing bodies, January 2018. In addition, the school will keep a record of all incidents involving those students who have been searched.

Staff

1. The safety of students and staff is paramount.
2. Any information about students suspected of using drugs out of school time, should be passed to the Associate Deputy Headteacher who will decide upon the appropriate action, in consultation with the Head of Year and School Nurse and any other appropriate health professional.
3. In all cases the health and safeguarding of an individual student or other member of the school community will take priority over confidentiality.
4. Staff should be mindful of their professional responsibilities when in charge of students on a school trip/activity.

5. Staff or helpers responsible for driving vehicles carrying students as passengers must abstain from consuming any alcohol.
6. Disciplinary procedures will be taken against any member of staff in breach of the school's regulations.

Parents and Visitors

1. Parents and visitors must not remain on school premises if under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
2. Regulations for lettings – consult with the School Business Lead.

Medicines

In accordance with the London Borough of Barnet's local code of practice Number 5 (Health and Safety) school staff should not supply any medication to students.

The School Welfare Officer or the designated first aider is responsible for supervising students taking medication, and may administer medication personally, only in a life-threatening situation. Any such action must be documented.

Staff training

The school will ensure that appropriate Drugs Education training for staff will happen annually.

Resources

The resources have been developed using www.talktofrank.com website and the school may also employ the services of qualified external drug education providers.

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually and changes made if necessary.

PSHEE Curriculum

A comprehensive programme of drugs education will be taught through the PSHEE programme for all key stages.

Drugs education aims to enable students to make healthy, informed and responsible choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes, developing and practising skills.

In addition to providing information about the effects of drugs on body functions and on health, drugs education includes the following topics:

- decision-making skills
- making choices
- risk-taking and assessing consequences
- self-esteem
- self-perception
- peer pressure
- the law

Visitors from outside agencies may be used to support aspects of the programme.

Other aspects of drug education will be covered in the Science Curriculum

Key Stage 3 focuses on effects and risks of smoking, alcohol and solvents, attitudes to drugs, influences on drug use, risk taking and peer pressure.

Key Stage 4 will focus on ways to avoid risky situations, how to cope in situations involving drugs, dangers of misusing alcohol and drugs, where to get help and advice and the impact of drug use on society.

Key Stage 5 will focus on providing the opportunity to discuss the reasons why people become dependent upon and misuse alcohol and drugs as well as considering the potential dangers to their emotional and physical well-being. They will also look at the impact of drug misuse upon society and the role of organisations in supporting people with drug and alcohol problems and where to access help and advice.

The school may also use external professionals and agencies to deliver part of the PSHEE Drugs Education provision.

Science Curriculum

Focuses on the impact that smoking, alcohol and drugs have on students' personal health.

Support Networks and Contacts

Appendix 2

The school has an allocated school nurse that runs monthly drop-ins for students and who can be contacted for 1:1 support for students:

Jacqueline Sambrook

School Nurse (SCPHN)

School Nursing Team

Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust Oak Lane Clinic, Oak Lane, London N2 8LT

CLCHT.BARNETEASTCENTRALSNTTEAM@NHS.Net

Students that require any support for drug and alcohol misuse will be referred to

<https://www.changegrowlive.org/barnet>