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## St Crispin's School Policy

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### Drugs Education Policy

Version Number	Date Created	Changes or reason for Update	Date Approved
V1	2002	First Issue	2002
V2	02/2007	Change from Deputy Head to Assistant Head (Pastoral), for monitoring. Minor text changes	03/2007
V3	03/2009	Inclusion of Smoke free legislation and change to Focus Days	05/2009
V4	12/2013	Minor changes	03/2014
V5	09/2016	Minor edits and formatting changes	09/2016

Next Review of this Policy is due 09/2018



## **Aims of Drugs Education**

St Crispin's School believes that drugs education is an essential part of health education which should address the students' needs at each stage of their development.

We aim:

- To discover what students know and identify their needs.
- To be aware of local trends in drug abuse.
- To deliver a programme for progressive and differentiated learning which caters to students' needs and is sensitive to individuals and groups.
- To help students to make informed choices and decisions.
- To develop students' personal initiative and ability to take responsibility.
- To encourage the recognition of personal skills and qualities in themselves and others.
- To help students maintain and develop relationships.
- To develop self-confidence and self-esteem.
- To develop students' assertiveness in appropriate situations.

The aim of this policy is to communicate clearly to staff, Parent(s)/Carer(s), visitors and students the manner in which drugs education will be delivered in this school, and to give guidance on ways to treat drug-related incidents. It also aims to establish good practice in relation to prescribed drugs, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs within the daily management of the school.

## **Content**

Drugs education provides information and promotes healthy lifestyles and positive activities. It builds on, and disseminates good practice in, identifying what works best in prevention of substance misuse. It seeks to help and advise those students already at risk from drug abuse, including alcohol, tobacco and solvents.

### **(a) Knowledge and Information**

#### Key Stage 3

Introduction to categories of drugs  
Social and health effects of alcohol  
Decision making  
Assertiveness  
Effect of alcohol abuse on family life

#### Key Stage 4

Discussion and information on various drug forms  
Physical and Mental effect of drugs and alcohol  
Visit from ex-addict to explain effects of drugs



### **(b) Values and Beliefs**

Students will be encouraged to consider the importance of the following values, which reflect the values of the school:

- Respect and valuing of themselves and others
- Understanding of social settings and peer group pressure
- Responsibility for their own choices
- Responsibility to the school, friends, their homes and the wider community.

### **(c) Skills and Abilities**

Students will be helped to develop the following skills:

- Coping strategies
- Decision making
- Assertiveness
- Self-esteem
- Communication.

### **Organisation**

Drugs education will be taught mainly through the PSHCE and Science curricula. Year 7 PSHCE Focus days address issues of risky behavior, decision making and staying safe. These days include visiting groups and speakers e.g. ARCADE (a drug education charity that works with young people in schools). Parent(s)/Carer(s) will be given the opportunity to experience the 'Into the Unknown' session. Aspects of the health issues concerned are included in the Science curriculum, especially the physical effects of smoking and alcohol. The Physical Education Department also considers the issue of drugs in sports.

### **Specific Issues**

All aspects of drug abuse will be covered but more emphasis will be placed on issues relevant to the locality eg, the use and effects of alcohol, tobacco, ecstasy, cannabis, and emerging substances of misuse and less on solvent abuse and 'hard' drugs, where at present there is little usage in students of school age.

Health professionals and visitors will be advised of the school's drug education policy.

### **Monitoring and Review**

- Drugs education will be monitored by the PSHCE co-ordinator and the Assistant Head (PSHCE Line Manager).
- The Parent(s)/Carer(s) and Pupils governors Committee will review the policy biennially.

### **Dissemination of the Policy**

The policy and schemes of work are available on request to Parent(s)/Carer(s), through the PSHCE coordinator or through the Assistant Head (PSHCE Line Manager).