

Hurworth School

Drug Education & Incident Management Policy

Accepted by: Governing Body – June 2009

Senior Leadership Team Lead Reviewer: James Keating

Review Cycle: 3 Years

Date for Review: May 2012

The drug policy for Hurworth School covers two key elements, educational entitlement and the management of drug related incidents.

Drug Education in Hurworth School

Rationale

Hurworth School recognises the key role of the education service in the prevention of problematic drug use and the part that staff, in partnership with other agencies, have to play in attempting to minimise the harm consequent upon such use

Hurworth School believes that all young people are entitled to a curriculum which explores drug related issues at a stage appropriate to their development and takes account of the particular circumstances and culture of the groups and communities to which they belong. This includes those young people with special educational needs.

Drug education forms part of an overall programme for PSHCE which aims to equip young people with the skills and knowledge to prepare them for adult life

Aims

Hurworth School aims to

- Raise the awareness of all the young people to the risks involved in using drugs in a society which tolerates a wide range of legitimate, though damaging, drug use
- Assist young people to respond to drug related situations with the knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to make decisions relating to their emotional, social and physical wellbeing
- Support young people who are in situations involving the problematic use of drugs by themselves or others close to them

Drug Education in Hurworth School

Drug education is delivered by; form tutors during PSHCE lessons, and the PE, RE and Science departments.

The overall philosophy in Hurworth School is one of informed choice and this is reflected in the approaches used. External agencies such as police, school nurse, health promotion specialists are used within the school to support drug education and

as a staff resource during INSET, staff training and parents evenings. Where visitors are used, they are made aware of the school policy and their contribution to the overall aims is discussed.

In a classroom setting, visitors will be regulated by the school policy, however the school recognises that there may be situations e.g. drop in sessions with the school nurse, connexions interviews etc. where individuals' organisational policies will override the school policy. However in incidents of disclosure all agencies will follow agreed Child Protection protocols. These are outlined below within the managing incidents section.

Management of drug related incidents in school

Rationale

Hurworth School prides itself on treating all incidents on their merit. Students are individuals and therefore any system designed to deal with incidents of drug use or disclosure must be flexible to the needs of the individual.

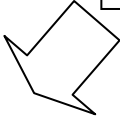
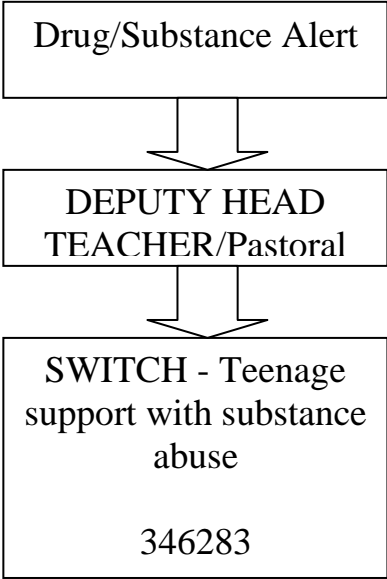
Hurworth School recognises that a range of responses may be required in the management of drug related incidents. The school recognises the need to balance the welfare of individual children and young people and the needs of the school. The framework in the term of the law, confidentiality and the use of external agencies can be found in our confidentiality policy.

Aims

Hurworth School aims to:

- Support staff and young people whose drug use has become problematic through the use of internal (school nurse, EWO, Connexions adviser) and external (drug agencies, social services, youth offending teams) sources
- Support young people who, though not directly involved, may be affected by drug use in the community, through access to information and education. Involve parents and governors in supporting young people where appropriate.

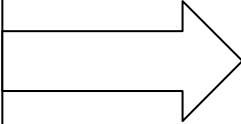
In the case of a drug related incident the following will happen:



This group will give direct support to the student and inform the school in any further support necessary

- Contact parents
- Habit reduction
- Rehabilitation
- Counsellor
- Emotional support
- Family support

In school Pastoral support



Response to a drug related incident on school premises

Short Term

In all instances, including medical emergency

The deputy Head or next available member of SMT will be notified as a first response to any identified incident. A decision will be taken at this point whether other agencies need to be involved e.g. police, social services, school nurse, Connexions adviser, however it must be noted that involvement of other agencies may remove the management of incidents from the schools jurisdiction. In most cases, unless there is a perceived risk to the child, the parent/carer will be informed of the situation. This will be done by a telephone call inviting them into school.

In the case of any injecting equipment found on the premises police will be informed immediately.

Medium Term

The pastoral team and other necessary agencies meet to consider further action and agree any support and sanctions which may apply, sanctions range according to the severity of the incident, as reflected in the school's Management of Behaviour Policy with permanent exclusion as a last resort. If a decision is taken to involve outside agencies, links are maintained to ensure young people are supported in the school environment. Confidentiality and security must be maintained throughout. There may be curriculum issues to address within the whole school, either to re-enforce messages or to avoid speculation by pupils.

Long Term

The effectiveness of the intervention strategies will be monitored by the extended pastoral team and if necessary adjustments to policy, practice and procedure made.

Monitoring and evaluation

The policy will be reviewed in accordance with school policy at the dates outlined on the top of this document. The Deputy Head has overall responsibility for the development and coordination of drugs education and response within school.

Safeguarding

Hurworth School adhere to the guidelines outlined in the LA Safeguarding Policy & Procedures.