



Waingels

Drugs and Alcohol Education Policy

September 2023

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Statement to be submitted to Governing Body or committee	
Equalities Act 2010 this policy does not discriminate against any people based on their protected characteristics	<p>Does the policy have any positive or negative implications for people with protected characteristics?</p> <p>Yes/No</p> <p>Are there any inequality implications on this policy.</p> <p>Yes /no</p>

Version	Date	Page No	Details of Change
	09/2023	3	Inclusion of statement: provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme and the management of incidents involving illegal and other unauthorised substances.
	09/2023	3	Reference to all other school-based policies which are related
	09/2023	4	Definition of drugs updated including updates to the list of legal and illegal substances Reference to sanctions issued will be in line with our behaviour and attitudes policy
	09/2023	4	Reference to vaping added, alongside smoking

	09/2023	5	Drug and Alcohol Education Aims: Reference to addressing the risk associated with 'county lines' and gang related drug issues.
	09/2023	5	Statement about services available updated to make specific reference to the addition of our own drugs and alcohol education
	09/2023	5-7	Sections added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contents of Waingels Drug and Alcohol Education • Organisation; Responsibility and delivery • Visitors • Students with special educational needs • Monitoring and evaluation
	09/2023	7	Updated list of drug and alcohol related incidents including 'county lines' and inappropriate level of understanding of communication in relation to drugs and alcohol
	09/2023	7	Actions updated to reflect that (ii) the Head Teacher and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be informed of the situation immediately, (iii) The HT and DSL will undertake dialogue with the student (s) and (iv) will inform, consult and involve others as necessary
	09/2023	8	Updates to confiscation and searching reflecting the Behaviour and Attitudes policy (v) including the informing of parents/carers of a search. (vi)
	09/2023	8	Vii addition: sample will be sealed in a plastic bag with details of the date, time and witness present.
	09/2023	8	ix addition: A detailed record of the incident will be made by the DSL and records kept by the HT and DSL only.
	09/2023	8-9	Responses to drug and alcohol related issues. Updates to communication with the police and others outside school.
	09/2023	8	Sanctions issued should be decided following dialogue with the HT, DSL and outside agencies where appropriate.
	09/2023	9	List of factors to consider when deciding the sanction have been updated
	09/2023	9	Sources of support updated
	09/2023	10	Addition: Role of the Governors and dissemination.

Rationale

We recognise the importance of educating for life in all its fullness. As part of our commitment to our school values of Pride, Respect, Resilience and Kindness, we understand that the development of students' ability to exercise self-control; to make confident, informed choices in and out of the classroom, are fundamental to enabling them to thrive and excel.

Aims

Our Waingels Drugs and Alcohol education policy aims to;

- clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of students and the whole school community
- clarify the school's approach to drugs and alcohol for all staff, students, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community
- provide guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug and alcohol education offered to the students
- clarify the procedures for responding to and managing any drug or alcohol related incidents that may occur so that they are managed with confidence and consistency and in the best interests of those involved
- ensure that the response to, and management of, incidents involving drugs and alcohol and the drugs education provided reflect the values and ethos of the school
- provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme and the management of incidents involving illegal and other unauthorised substances.
- reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies.

As part of their statutory duty to promote students' wellbeing, schools have a clear role to play in preventing drug and alcohol misuse. Our Drugs and Alcohol Education Policy has been developed with reference to Department for Education advice and guidance: DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools (2012), and other related school policies and documents. Our drugs and alcohol education of students takes into account the statutory requirements within the National Curriculum Science Order and Citizenship Programme of Study and the non-statutory framework for PSHCE.

Other related policies and documents include

Behaviour and Attitudes Policy

CCTV Policy

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

Educational Visits Policy

Equality Policy

Health and Safety Policy

PSHE Policy

Relationship and Sex Education Policy

Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy

Where and to whom the policy applies

This policy applies to all school staff, students, parents/carers, governors and other partner agencies working with the school. The policy applies to the school premises, the school day, while travelling to and from school, journeys in school time, work experience, day and residential trips and when the school is deemed to be in loco parentis.

Definition of Drugs

A drug is defined as a substance that people take that affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. For purposes of this policy, by 'drugs' we are referring to:

- Illegal substances (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971),
- Legal substances such as: alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off a gas or a vapour which can be inhaled), ketamine, khat, alkyl nitrites (known as poppers) and new psychoactive substances (known as 'legal highs'),
- All over the counter or prescription medicines.

By **Drugs Paraphernalia** we mean items such as cannabis grinders, rolling papers, filters, matches, lighters and pipes etc.

Waingels stance towards drugs, health and the needs of pupils

The possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs in Waingels is not acceptable.

The school is committed to safeguarding the health, safety and wellbeing of all members of the school community. In providing drugs education and responding to incidents involving drugs, our first concern is the pastoral care and health and safety of students, but we will continue to ensure appropriate sanctions are issued, in line with our behaviour and attitudes policy.

Medicines

Please refer to the schools 'Supporting pupils with medical conditions' policy for how we control the use of medication at school.

Alcohol

No alcohol may be brought on to school premises or consumed during the course of a school day. Any adult, student, parents, carers and visitors under the effects of alcohol will be asked to leave the premises and return at a later date for the safety of the whole school. Parents will be asked to remove their children from the school, if they have consumed any alcohol, and will be encouraged to seek immediate medical support.

Smoking and Vaping

Waingels is a no smoking or vaping school for all staff, students and visitors. Students are not permitted to bring smoking materials, including matches and lighters, or vapes, onto the school site. If students are caught smoking or vaping they will be reported to the relevant Head of Year, and this will be followed up, in line with our behaviour policy. Students may also be given appropriate sanctions which will escalate with repeated infractions.

Drug and Alcohol Education

Aims

Drug and alcohol education is a major component of drug prevention. The following aims of drug education at Waingels will be consistent with the values and ethos of the school and laws of society, as well as being appropriate to the age, ability and maturity of the students, and relevant to their particular circumstances, including SEND and safeguarding needs and circumstances:

- To increase students' knowledge and understanding and clarify misconceptions about;
 - the short and long-term effects and risks of drugs
 - the rules and laws relating to drugs
 - the impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities
 - local and national use
 - the complex moral, social, emotional and political issues surrounding drugs
 - the risk associated with 'county lines' and gang related drug issues
- To develop students' personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy, including;
 - promoting positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles
 - assessing, avoiding and managing risk
 - communicating effectively
 - resisting pressures
 - finding information, help and advice
 - devising problem-solving and coping strategies
 - developing and maintaining self-awareness and self-esteem in order to motivate them to value their welfare and conscientious care of themselves
- To enable students to explore their own and other peoples' attitudes towards drugs and drug use, and drug users, including challenging stereotypes, and exploring media and social influences
- To ensure that students have access to and knowledge of up to date information as sources of help. This includes local and national helplines (including FRANK for drugs, NHS Smoking Services for tobacco and Drinkline for alcohol), local youth and community services and drug services. These services are used in addition to the school's own drug and alcohol education.

Content of Waingels Drug and Alcohol Education

Waingels provides a planned drug education curriculum through the following:

- (i) The **National Curriculum Science** Order outlines the content of the statutory drugs education:
Key Stage 3: 11-14 year olds should be taught that "conception, growth, development, behaviour and health can be affected by diet, drugs and disease"

Key Stage 4: 14-16 year olds should be taught that “human health is affected by a range of environmental and inherited factors, by the use and misuse of drugs and by medical treatments”.

- (ii) **PSHE** at Key Stages 3 and 4 includes specific drugs education, enrichment lessons in Key Stage 5

This includes specific drugs education such as “facts and laws about drug, alcohol and tobacco use and misuse, and the personal and social consequences of misuse for themselves”, “ways of recognising and reducing risk, minimising harm and getting help in emergency and risky situations” as well as other topics that reflect knowledge, understanding, attitudes and social skills.

- (iii) **Citizenship** at Key Stages 3 and 4 contributes to drug education e.g. by providing opportunities to understand rules and laws and how they relate to rights and responsibilities, to explore moral, social and cultural issues and to discuss and debate topical issues.

- (iv) Tutor time, assemblies and pastoral events in Key Stages 3, 4 and 5

- (v) Year 10 SIMBA (Safe In Mind, Body and Attitude) Day

- (vi) Other curriculum areas such as Social Sciences, Belief and Life and Physical Education

Further details of the PSHE curriculum can be found in the PSHE policy and specific details about approach and content can be obtained from the school.

Organisation

Responsibility for coordination

The coordination of Drugs and Alcohol Education is the responsibility of the Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for Personal Development with the support of relevant and appropriate staff including Curriculum Leaders for PSHE, Belief and Life and Science.

Delivery

Drugs and alcohol education will be embedded as part of lessons in Belief and Life, Science and Enrichment at KS5. We will use a wide range of resources and teaching strategies to support student engagement and understanding. We regularly use approved resources from FRANK and the PSHE association. **Belief and Life teachers delivering lessons will have training on drugs and alcohol. All lessons will be prefaced with a trigger warning slide to advise students of the sensitive nature and offer support as well as a slide outlining where to seek support if they are affected by the content. Each half term the pastoral team identify any student who may find the topic difficult so that they staff can provide tailored support.**

Visitors

Occasionally, appropriate and suitably experienced and/or knowledgeable visitors from outside school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of drug education. This is in line with our PSHE policy.

Students with special educational needs (SEN)

Relevant staff will ensure that drug education is accessible to students with a SEN by considering resources and material used, timings, teaching strategies etc.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This is conducted through lesson observations and student voice for example, as part of the Safeguarding Education Review or the Belief and Life Deep Dive or a standalone review of drugs and alcohol education. Reviews from the safeguarding team may also inform future planning.

Drug and Alcohol Related Incidents

A drug or alcohol related incident may include but is not limited to any or all of the following:

- drugs or drugs paraphernalia found on school premises;
- students in possession of illegal or unauthorised drugs;
- students supplying illegal or unauthorised drugs;
- students under the influence of drugs, or exhibiting signs of intoxication or illness following the use of drugs;
- disclosure of drug use;
- information which suggest student(s) are involved in substance misuse;
- illegitimate sale/supply of drugs in the school vicinity and local community;
- involvement in 'county line' or gang related drug issues.
- **students having an age inappropriate level of understanding of communication in relation drugs and alcohol.**

If there are any suspicions, observations, disclosures or discoveries of situations involving illegal and other unauthorised drugs (possession, supply or imbibing);

- (i) Utmost priority will be placed on safety, meeting any medical emergencies with first aid and summoning appropriate help before addressing further issues. If in doubt, medical assistance will be sought immediately.
- (ii) The Head Teacher and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be informed of the situation immediately.
- (iii) Dialogue with the student(s) will be undertaken by the Head Teacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead or other appropriate member of the school's leadership team as soon as possible in order to determine the facts. The emphasis will be on listening to what people have to say and asking open rather than closed or leading questions. Consideration will be given to separating any students involved in the incident and ensuring that a second adult witness is present.
- (iv) The Head Teacher and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will inform, consult and involve others as necessary. Careful attention will be given to respecting the confidentiality of those involved.
- (v) Where there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that a student(s) is involved in a drug or alcohol related incident they will be encouraged to hand the item(s) over voluntarily, in

the presence of a second member of staff. Where the individual refuses, then the school will follow its Confiscation and Searching guidance in the Behaviour and Attitudes Policy.

- (vi) Staff may search school property, for example, students' lockers, if they believe drugs to be stored there. Prior consent will always be sought. Individuals will be made aware that if consent is refused the school may wish to proceed with a search. **After any search involving students, parents/carers will be normally be contacted, regardless of whether the result of the search was positive or negative. Should a student refuse to engage with a search, their parents will be contacted immediately to support the school by being present with the student when the request is made. In extreme circumstances, where the safety of the student themselves or other members of the school community may be at risk, the school may contact the police straight away. The student will be supervised at all times by a member of staff.**
- (vii) Any substance suspected of being a drug will be confiscated. In taking temporary possession of a suspected substance, a second adult witness will be present, the sample will be sealed in a plastic bag with details of the date, time and witness present and locked in the secure location.
- (viii) If the substance is suspected to be an illegal drug, the police will be notified immediately, in order that they may collect it for identification and then store or dispose of it in line with locally agreed protocols. In the majority of cases, parents will be notified immediately unless this is not in the best interests of the student.
- (ix) A detailed record of the incident will be made by the Designated Safeguarding Lead. A copy of the record, including the police incident reference number where relevant, will be kept by the DSL and the Head Teacher. There will be no other copies of the incident.
- (x) The school will maintain vigilance about drug-related incidents in the local community through contact with police and other relevant agencies.

Responses to drug and alcohol related incidents

The school will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident.

Any response will balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider community and will aim to provide students with the opportunity to learn from their mistakes and develop as individuals.

While there is no legal obligation to inform the police, if an offence against the Misuse of Drugs Act is suspected or substantiated in relation to a drug related incident at school, we will, in all circumstances, inform the police. If so, the Head Teacher, or member of staff authorised by them, will make the call.

If necessary, an urgent meeting will take place on the same day as the incident, or as soon as possible (between the Head Teacher and appropriate member of SLT) in order to decide whether others outside the school should be informed. These may include parents/carers, the appropriate personnel in the LA, Childrens' Social Care and police.

Responses to and sanctions issued against students who are involved in drug and alcohol related incidents will be decided following dialogue between the Head Teacher, **The Designated Safeguarding Lead** and, **outside agencies where appropriate** , and in line with the school behaviour policy.

In drug and alcohol related incidents the following are responses that may be considered alongside those mentioned in the schools behaviour policy;

- Targeted intervention programs put in place
- Referral to external provision and support
- Counselling, both internally and referrals through external providers
- Pastoral support plans put in place
- Inter-agency programmes
- Fixed term suspension issued
- Fixed term transfer issued
- A managed move sought
- Permanent exclusion issued

Any responses and sanctions will take into account a range of factors including the;

- Seriousness of the incident
- Short and long term welfare of the student(s) concerned
- Short and long term welfare of other students
- Guidance in DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools (DfE 2012)
- Consistency with disciplinary action for other drug related incidents
- Consistency with disciplinary action for other misdemeanours.
- **Any factors involving the student considered as mitigation**

The Head Teacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media if required.

Early Intervention

The school has a key role in identifying students who are at risk of drug or alcohol misuse. The process of identifying needs should aim to distinguish between students who require general information, those who could benefit from targeted prevention, and those who require a detailed needs assessment and more intensive support.

The school will also be alert to behaviours and attitudes which might indicate that the child is experiencing difficult circumstances around drug and alcohol misuse. Where problems are observed or suspected or if a child chooses to disclose difficulties school safeguarding procedures will be followed. This may include involving sources of support for the child such as Childrens Social Care, services commissioned by the Drug and Alcohol Teams (DAAT) programmes and, where appropriate, the family.

Role of the Governors

As part of their general responsibilities for the strategic direction of the school, Governors have a key role to play in reviewing and monitoring this policy.

Dissemination

All staff, parents/carers and students will be reminded of this policy and its procedures on a regular basis. The policy and schemes of work are available on request to parents through the Head Teacher.

Policy Author: Claire Ward

Date: September 2023

Approval:

Date of next Review:

Useful Organisations

Addaction is one of the UK's largest specialist drug addiction and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents.

Website: www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services.

Tel: 020 7553 7640

Email: admin@adfam.org.uk

Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Concern works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems.

Tel: 020 7264 0510.

Email: contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk

Website: www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) are a campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco.

Tel: 020 7739 5902

Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Website: www.ash.org.uk

Children's Legal Centre operates a free and confidential legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people.

Tel: 01206 877910

Email: clc@essex.ac.uk

Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Children's Rights Alliance for England - A charity Children's Rights Alliance for England working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Email: info@crae.org.uk

Website: www.crae.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm.

Tel: 020 7307 7450

Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking.

Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drug Education Forum – This website contains a number of useful papers and briefing sheets for use by practitioners.

Website: www.drugeducationforum.com

DrugScope is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners forum.

Tel: 020 7520 7550

Email: info@drugscope.org.uk

Website: www.drugscope.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs.

24 Hour Helpline: 0800 776600

Email: frank@talktofrank.com

Website: www.talktofrank.com

Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives.

Tel: 020 7739 8494.

Email admin@mentoruk.org

Website: www.mentoruk.org.uk

National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives.

Tel: 020 7843 6000

Website: www.ncb.org.uk

Family Lives - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects.

Tel: 0800 800 2222

Website: www.familylives.org.uk

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse) A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people. Tel: 01785 817885

Information line: 01785 810762

Email: information@re-solv.org

Website: www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline.

Tel: 0800 169 0 169

Website: www.smokefree.nhs.uk

Stars National Initiative offers support for anyone working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse.

Website: www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk

Youth Offending Teams – Local Youth Offending Teams are multi-agency teams and are the responsibility of the local authority, who have a statutory duty to prevent offending by young people under the age of 18.

Website: www.gov.uk/youth-offending-team