



The Clifton Centre
Key Stage 4 Pupils PRU

The Clifton Centre Drugs Policy

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The Clifton Centre Drugs Policy

This policy was developed in response to DfE and ACPO Drug advice for schools September 2012 and the Searching, screening and Confiscation advice for head teachers, school staff and governing bodies February 2014. This policy applies to all staff, students, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies working with the Clifton Centre pupil referral unit.

Illegal and unauthorised drugs are not acceptable within the boundaries identified within this policy.

This policy will apply within the premises of the pupil referral unit and beyond, whenever students are in the care of school staff. This includes school trips and educational visits. If students are found to be in possession and/or taking drugs a referral to Social Services and/or Police will be made at the discretion of the Head of Centre.

Location and Dissemination

A copy of this policy can be found on the school website and staff shared area. Parts of this policy may be replicated and referred to in other school publications.

Definitions and terminology

A drug is;

“A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave”

This includes tobacco, alcohol, volatile substances, illegal drugs, over-the-counter and prescribed medicines and other unauthorised substances.

The purpose of this policy is to acknowledge and clarify the school's role in drug prevention and education and ensure it is appropriate to the needs of our students. The policy provides information and guidance about drug education, as well as procedures to respond to any drug-related incident, for students, teachers, support-staff and outside agencies or individuals.

The policy aims to ensure that the approach taken on the issue of drugs is a whole-school one and is part of our commitment to and concern for the health and well-being of the whole school community.

Principles and Values

We believe that the purpose of drug education should be to give pupils knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy life-style and to relate these to their own actions, both now and in the future.

In addition The Clifton Centre believes that Drugs Education should:

- Be an integral part of the lifelong learning process, beginning in early childhood and continue into adult life.
- Be an entitlement for all young people
- Encourage every pupil to contribute to make our community and aims to support each individual as they grow and learn.
- Enable young people to make healthy, informed choices through helping them to increase their knowledge, challenging and exploring attitudes and developing and practising skills.
- To help young people to develop further a sense of self-worth and self esteem.
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of drug use and misuse.
- To help young people to distinguish between different substances, consider their use, misuse, benefit and harm.
- To listen to young people's thoughts, feelings and concerns and to ensure that drug education responds to their needs.
- To encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience drug use (including those dependent on medicinal drugs).
- To widen understanding about related health, social and legal issues.
- To enable students to identify where help and support can be found, by offering a Common Assessment where appropriate, or signposting to other options.
- To develop as a Health Promoting School.

We intend to achieve the above through:

- A co-ordinated, integrated and consistent approach to the curriculum and to possible drug related incidents.
- An appropriate teaching programme which responds to students' needs.
- Clearly defined learning outcomes for lessons and other inputs.
- Reinforcement of key messages at different ages and stages and in different situations.
- Content and teaching approaches, which match the needs and maturities of all students, including those with special educational needs and / or English as an additional language.
- Involvement of the whole community, including staff, governors, parents/carers, students and visitors, in order to promote a united and cohesive approach to substance education and misuse.
- Working in an integrated way with other local professionals.
- Training and support for staff in the planning and implementation of drug education.
- Regular revision of policy and practice.

- Recognising that adults are role models for students and committing ourselves to a smoke-free environment; not using alcohol on premises and working in partnership with parents and carers.

Values and aims

Set in the broader context of a programme for Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) and Science, our drug education reflects whole school aims to provide a caring community in which young people can learn to respect themselves and others and take responsibility for their own actions.

We are committed to the health and safety of all members of the school community and will take action to safeguard their well being.

Fundamental to our values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for drug education with parents and carers. We strive for effective communication and co-operation.

The possession, use or supply of all non-medical drugs on school premises is unacceptable. The school is legally required to be smoke-free, following changes to legislation (July 2007).

This policy will apply on the school premises and beyond, students are within the care of school staff. This includes all school trips and educational visits.

Whilst we acknowledge that a number of young people may choose to use or misuse substances, it is important to recognise that the majority of young people are choosing not to do so.

Drugs Education Topics Key stage 4

- Smoking and the effects
- Reasons people smoke
- Addiction
- Alcohol and the effects on the body
- Dangers of alcohol
- Alcoholism
- Types of drugs
- What are drugs?
- Legal and illegal drugs
- Risks of taking drugs
- Peer pressure
- Drug abuse and addiction
- Signs and symptoms
- How do I keep myself safe?