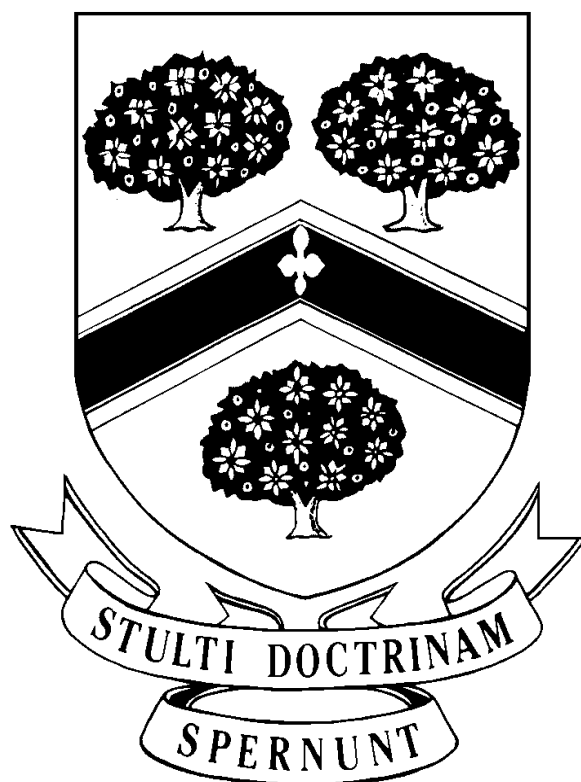


# **THORNTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

**A SPECIALIST SPORTS, SCIENCE & APPLIED LEARNING  
TRUST SCHOOL**



FOUNDED 1673

## **POLICY FOR DRUGS EDUCATION**

REVIEWED: MAY 2007

# **POLICY FOR DRUGS EDUCATION**

This policy is to be used in conjunction with the Policy for PSHCE and "Drugs: Guidance for School" (DfEE 0092/2004)

## **Statement**

Any pupil suspected of possessing or supplying illegal substances in school (or whilst engaged in school activities) will be excluded. Thornton Grammar school will not tolerate the use or misuse of substances harmful to health as our first concern is the health and safety of the school community and meeting the pastoral needs of our pupils.

The period of exclusion will be decided upon based on the factors appertaining to each individual case.

Flexibility and counselling are high priority when dealing with drug related incidents. Any counselling that takes place should be out of school hours.

## **Context**

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the Policies on Behaviour, Health and Safety, Confidentiality, Child Protection, School Visits, PSHCE and PSHCE guidelines. Refer to attached appendices for further guidelines.

## **Local and National Guidelines**

Every Child Matters  
Home Office Targets  
Healthy Schools

## **Definitions**

Drugs are defined as:

- Legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents;
- Over the counter and prescribed drugs; and
- Illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, heroin, crack/cocaine and LSD

Drugs must not be brought on to School premises and must not be bought, sold or otherwise obtained on school premises. These regulations apply to any location on school visits or offsite education.

Permission however is given for prescribed drugs if left with the School Nurse for safekeeping and for the nurse to dispense. Pupils on school trips should give any prescribed drug to a staff member.

## **Drugs Education**

### **Aims**

To equip each individual with the information to enable them to make informed choices to enable them to lead healthy lives in today's society.

The school provides a planned programme of drugs education as part of PSHCE from years 7 to 11. The programme of study reflects knowledge and understanding, attitudes and personal and social skills.

### **Delivery of Drugs Education**

- It is the responsibility of all staff to uphold the attitudes and values, spiritual and moral elements of Thornton Grammar School.
- Direct teaching will be the responsibility of the PSHCE and Science departments. Other departments, at some time, may have to deal with related issues. The aims of this policy should be adhered to.
- The Policies and Schemes of Work of specific departments give full details of issues and areas studied and resources used by students.

- Drugs Education is taught in a spiral curriculum that is age appropriate.
- Appropriate questioning will be answered honestly and sensitively without discrimination.

The PSHCE programme allows for the promotion of responsible **attitudes** and **values**, which are taught within a wider framework of discussion about personal development. This approach involves:

- a. acceptance and exploration of difference, whether it be social, cultural, ethnic or religious;
- b. the consideration of wider value systems, for example represented by the law and by religions;
- c. developing a critical awareness of value systems and messages of others, such as those within a peer group or represented in the media. Pupils are encouraged to develop their own values and attitudes towards drugs

The PSHCE programme aims to develop **personal and social skills** as part of the drugs education programme by:

- a. Encouraging pupils to become active decision makers through participatory forms of education
- b. Encouraging pupils to understand the importance of self-esteem and empowerment in the context of decision-making.

The PSHCE programme aims to impart accurate **knowledge and understanding**, identifying and addressing the following:

- Pupils' own knowledge about drugs
- Identification and classification of drugs
- Potential consequences of use and misuse of drugs
- Drugs use and the law

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Governing Body and Headteacher have ultimate responsibility for upholding the Policy.

Mrs S Banks, Assistant Head teacher, will monitor the Policy.

The Head of PSHCE and Head of Science will ensure the delivery of the Drugs Education within the curriculum.

All staff (teaching and non-teaching) have responsibility for upholding the attitudes and values of the school.

#### **The Line Manager will:**

- Be the contact person for issues related to child protection and drug or substance misuse;
- Ensure that procedures for managing suspected substance related issues are followed;
- Keep information for staff and parents on health related issues (including substances up to date).
- Support and direct co-ordinator and staff.

#### **The Class Teacher / Subject Teacher will be expected to:**

- Address PSHCE / CEG in their curriculum planning and delivery;
- Monitor behaviour that raises suspicion about drug or substance related issues and child protection concerns. (See health and safety issues below).

- Observe appropriate confidentiality.

**The First Aider will be expected to:**

- Keep informed about drug and substance abuse and appropriate reactions;
- Observe appropriate confidentiality.

**The Caretaker will be expected to:**

- Keep the school site free of dangerous objects and substances, i.e. 'sharps' and dispose of them appropriately;
- Be the contact person if anyone finds dangerous objects or substances on school premises.
- Observe appropriate confidentiality.

**The Lunchtime Supervisor will be expected to:**

- Implement the health and safety procedures related to drug incidents;
- Implement the behaviour management procedures;
- Implement the child protection procedures;
- Keep the Head teacher informed on any concerns which may be drug related;
- Observe appropriate confidentiality.

**The nominated PSHCE / CEG Governor will be expected to:**

- Keep themselves up to date with local issues relating to employment, further education and health including drugs and relationships.
- Help to monitor the effectiveness of the PSHCE / CEG policy (including drugs education);
- Liaise with parents and share their concerns and issues with school SMT;
- Be involved in the relevant section of the SIP.

**Parental Responsibilities**

Parents are encouraged to take part in the life of the school through Parents Association, Parental Consultations, Educational Evenings, School meetings, assisting with school trips and visits, helping in school, supporting school procedures on discipline, Home / School Agreement, etc.

**Visitors**

On arrival, visitors will be given relevant information on school procedures and Health and Safety. Purpose of the visit, lesson content and materials will be discussed prior to the lessons taking place. This will ensure appropriateness and relevance for the group of students. Staff will be present in lessons where a visitor has been invited. Staff should remain in control and responsible for discipline and behaviour. Evaluations of the lessons will inform future liaison and curriculum planning.

**Promoting a Healthy Environment**

- The school acknowledges that staff and other adults are influential role models for pupils and should demonstrate appropriate interactions, adult-to-adult and adult to child, as well as demonstrating healthy choices in front of children.

- The school provides a designated room for staff who smoke. All other area of the premises are smoking free.
- Alcohol may be used by staff on social occasions on school premises in moderation, but it is the governors' expectation that staff do not consume alcohol and then teach or take responsibility of pupils, e.g. on school trips. (Refer to Policy)

### **Health and Safety Issues**

- In the case of suspected use or a school member apparently under the influence of substance, the first aider will be informed and appropriate action taken, e.g. dialling 999 for an ambulance.
- When discarded sharps (syringes) are found, the caretaker will be immediately informed.
- For the management of suspected substance related incidents, the policy statement will be followed.

### **The school and its' Governing Body will:**

- Consider each substance incident individually (the child protection procedures may be followed, the child's parents contacted or the police may be contacted).
- Recognise that a variety of responses will be necessary to deal with incidents in the interest of the child and other members of the school;
- Seek to balance the interests of the child / children involved in suspected drug related incidents, the other school members and local community.
- Refer to Statement for Drugs.

### **Staff Development**

Staff development needs will be identified through performance management. These will inform personal development plans and the SDP.

### **Communication**

- This Policy will be available for parents' inspection.
- The Policy will be circulated to all members of teaching staff.
- Students will be informed about the aims of Drugs Education through PSHCE.
- Parents are invited to PSHCE evening workshops where issues are raised and discussed.
- The teaching of Drugs Awareness is through partnership between school and other agencies.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- With students: questionnaires, feedback to outcomes from individual lessons.
- With parents: at the PSHCE evening, Parents' evenings and individual contact.
- Through LEA monitoring systems – Drug incidents, Consultant advice and guidance.
- This Policy will be reviewed every three years.

Policy Name: POLDRUGS.DOC  
Person Responsible: SHB  
Date last ratified by Governors: 15 May 2007