



Lakelands
Academy

DRUGS POLICY

**NEXT REVIEW:
SUMMER 2022**

Drug prevention is taught mostly within the PSHEE programme. Emphasis is placed upon:

- Providing an accurate factual knowledge about the attraction and dangers of drugs and about the law relating to their use and misuse;
- Emphasising the benefits of a healthy life-style;
- Informing students where they could access support in the community;
- Enabling students to make responsible choices both now and in later life.

A POLICY FOR DRUG MISUSE AND DRUG PREVENTION

DEFINITION

Drug misuse is an educational issue. It is essential the Academy has a drugs education programme; some students will be involved in smoking, alcohol and volatile substance misuse. Some students, at any given time, may actively be involved in experimenting with illegal drugs and many students are likely to be exposed to the effect and influence of drug issues in the wider community. Young people who live in Ellesmere and the surrounding community are now more at risk of being involved in drug related activity due to the growing "County lines" problem.

Drug prevention incorporates both primary prevention (stopping people from taking or experimenting with drugs in the first place) and secondary prevention (treatment and rehabilitation to help those who are using drugs to stop).

JUSTIFICATION

- The Academy is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being.
- The Academy is committed to a partnership with parents and sharing with them the responsibility for drugs education. This will mean working with them and keeping them informed and involved at all times.
- The Academy neither condones the misuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the Academy, nor the illegal supply of these substances.
- The Academy does everything possible to stop smoking.
- The Academy believes it must provide accurate information about substances and to increase understanding for those experiencing, or likely to experience, substance use.
- The Academy believes it has a duty to inform and educate young people on the consequences of drug use and misuse and through the general ethos of the Academy will seek to persuade young people in need of support to come forward.
- Drug education will enable students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing skills.

RESPONSIBILITIES

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF:-

- The Board of Governors to be aware of substance education as they would any other aspect of the curriculum.
- The head teacher/ SLT Member responsible for the Pastoral Team for policy development and its implementation, liaison with the Board of Governors, parents, the LA and outside bodies.
- The head teacher/ SLT Members responsible for the Curriculum and Pastoral Team and PSHEE lead to see that curriculum organisation, including PSHEE, facilitates a health education programme incorporating drugs education as a vital part of the personal and social education of every student.
- The PSHEE Lead to arrange and co-ordinate the health education programme including drugs education; to provide accurate information about substances and to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse.
- The tutor team, through PSHEE, to widen understanding about drugs related health and social issues; Crime, HIV and Aids.
- The head of faculty for Science/ PE and the PSHEE lead to ensure that their schemes of work dovetail so that learning is reinforced rather than repetitious.
- All Faculty Leaders to identify where their curriculum content might contribute to, or reinforce drugs education.
- The Board of Governors to review the Drugs Policy in line with the agreed review cycle.
- The PSHEE lead to ensure appropriate in-service training for all staff to enable them to recognise symptoms and to deal with situations of drug misuse.
- All staff to be aware of warning signs in individuals which may indicate drug misuse.
- The Academy (HOY/AHOY/ Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and PSHEE lead to co-operate actively with other agencies such as Community Police, Social Services, the LA and health and drug agencies.
- Tutors to discuss with students any instances involving substance misuse or supply on the premises and refer to their HOY or SLT. Any suspected drug use/ supply should be referred to SLT by the HOY.
- HOY/AHOY to investigate any suggestion of using or supplying substances off the premises and liaise with the SLT regarding appropriate action being taken in line with relevant policies.

PROCEDURES

- In the event of drug use being identified in the Academy a member of the SLT will be informed. The head teacher (or designated member of the SLT) will then inform the Chair of Governors. The LA will be informed as soon as possible.
- The Headteacher will have overall responsibility for the drugs education curriculum/ Policy.
- The policy will be incorporated into the staff handbook and will be available for other stakeholders.
- All staff, including site services managers, administrative staff, ancillary and support staff, will be made aware of the content of the policy and receive appropriate in-service training to help them in their awareness of drugs and related issues.
- Parents will be invited to appropriately organised discussions to help inform guide and raise awareness of drug related issues.

- All students will be warned of the consequences of bringing illegal substance/substances upon Academy premises via assemblies/ tutor team etc.
- The Academy will continue to work closely with the local police, specialist addiction counsellors, school nurse and invited guest speakers.
- All students will receive the drugs education programme which may be taught through a variety of subjects, particularly PSHEE, science and English/ Drama.
- Any student involved in using or supplying drugs will be subject to the Academy's disciplinary procedures (Sanction Policy) but will also receive appropriate support/counselling/education.
- In the event of an incident involving the use of illegal substance/substances, following investigation, parents will be informed and involved in working with the Academy in relation to the issue.
- In the event of a drugs related incident attracting media interest, the Academy will take appropriate advice from the Shropshire Councils HR Advice or legal team and press officer to ensure the reporting of any incidents remains in the best interest of young people, their families and the Academy.
- The Board of Governors and other stakeholders, as appropriate, will be consulted during any review of this policy.
- The Drugs Policy will be available for all stakeholders on the Academy website.