



DANE ROYD J&I SCHOOL

Drugs Policy

**Review frequency:
Every two years**

**Approval by:
Governing Body**

Date approved : 11/10/26

Policy date : 10/10/2026

Review date : 10 /10/28

Lead personnel : J.Davison

Aims which guide our policies and practice at Dane Royd School



As a school, we aim to nurture an environment where children and staff achieve and thrive. We want to build strong foundations and a love of learning where every member of our school community feels they belong, can be, and become the very best version of themselves. We want our children to understand the rich heritage of the world; to be a positive member of their community and to become skilled citizens who have self-belief, passion and empathy for the world in which they live.

Our Agreed Strong Foundations are:



- To create a school environment which nurtures and encourages a life-long love of learning.
- All members of the school community will live the school values. Through these values, we will equip our young people with the skills for life, to make them reflective, empathetic and open-minded members of the community.
- To provide vital enrichment activities to provide opportunities for our children to experience and thrive in.
- To teach the knowledge and skills to enable our young people to make informed decisions about their well-being, health and relationships to build their self-efficacy.
- To celebrate differences and diversity, and promote equity of opportunity so all can thrive together.
- To have high aspirations for all our young people. We want every child to succeed in their own way. Successful learning means enabling every individual – regardless of background, race, gender, disability, sexuality or socioeconomic status – to flourish in our school.
- To support pupils to become responsible, active citizens who can play their part in public life as young people and adults in modern Britain.
- We want our children and staff to be proud of their school. By following our school values, we will build a respectful, dynamic and inclusive school community where everyone's achievements are celebrated.



We ensure that all of our policies and practices are guided by these aims and we seek to ensure that they are at the forefront of all that we do.

1. Purpose

Dane Royd Junior & Infant School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

The school recognises that substances can have a significant impact upon children's health, wellbeing, safety and life chances. The purpose of this policy is to:

- safeguard pupils;
 - provide a clear framework for responding to incidents;
 - support pupils and families;
 - promote healthy lifestyles;
 - meet DfE expectations and safeguarding requirements.
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2. Related Policies

This policy should be read alongside:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
 - Behaviour Policy
 - Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy
 - Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
 - Attendance Policy
 - Health and Safety Policy
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3. Legal Framework

This policy is informed by:

- Department for Education (DfE) *Drugs: Advice for Schools*.
- DfE *Searching, Screening and Confiscation Guidance*.
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE).
- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education Statutory Guidance.
- Equality Act 2010.
- Children Act 1989 and 2004.
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

The school will ensure that all procedures relating to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping and medicines are carried out in accordance with current legislation and statutory guidance

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body is responsible for:

- Approving and reviewing this policy.
- Monitoring its effectiveness.
- Ensuring that safeguarding arrangements relating to substance misuse are effective.

Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- The implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring staff receive appropriate guidance and training.
- Supporting the Designated Safeguarding Lead in responding to incidents.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The DSL will:

- Lead the school's response to drug-related incidents.
- Assess safeguarding risks.
- Make referrals to external agencies where appropriate.
- Maintain accurate records of concerns and actions taken.
- Monitor emerging patterns and trends.

Staff

All staff are responsible for:

- Following this policy.
- Reporting concerns immediately.
- Recording incidents in accordance with safeguarding procedures.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles through the curriculum.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to:

- Follow school rules relating to drugs, alcohol, tobacco and vaping.

- Report concerns to a trusted adult.
- Act responsibly and safely.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are encouraged to:

- Work in partnership with the school.
- Inform the school of any concerns that may affect a child's welfare.
- Support the school's approach to substance education and safeguarding.

6. Definition of Drugs

For the purposes of this policy, drugs include:

Legal substances

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Vapes and e-cigarettes
- Nicotine products
- Prescribed medicines
- Over-the-counter medicines
- Solvents

Illegal substances

- Cannabis
- Cocaine
- Heroin
- Ecstasy
- Nitrous oxide
- Other controlled substances

Novel substances

- New Psychoactive Substances
 - Designer drugs
 - Synthetic substances
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7. School Position

The possession, use, supply or distribution of unauthorised drugs by pupils is prohibited.

The school adopts a safeguarding-led approach that balances:

- education;
 - prevention;
 - support;
 - proportional sanctions.
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8. Drug Education

Drug education forms part of the school's PSHE and Health Education curriculum.

Pupils will learn:

Key Stage 1

- Medicines can help people.
- Medicines should only be taken with adult supervision.
- Some substances can be harmful.

Key Stage 2

- Risks associated with tobacco and vaping.
 - Risks associated with alcohol.
 - Basic awareness of illegal drugs.
 - Peer pressure and decision making.
 - Sources of help and support.
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9. Medicines

The school will manage medicines in accordance with the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.

Medication must:

- be supplied by parents/carers;

- be clearly labelled;
 - be stored securely;
 - only be administered by authorised staff.
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10. and Vaping

The school is a smoke-free and vape-free site.

Smoking and vaping are prohibited:

- anywhere on school premises;
 - during school visits;
 - at school events attended by pupils.
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11. Responding to Drug-Related Incidents

Every drug-related incident will be treated as both a behaviour and potential safeguarding concern.

The school will consider the circumstances of the incident, the age of the pupil, any SEND needs, previous concerns and any wider safeguarding risks before determining an appropriate response.

Drug-related incidents may include:

- possession of substances;
 - use of substances;
 - disclosure of use;
 - discovery of paraphernalia;
 - concerns regarding family substance misuse;
 - vaping;
 - online drug-related concerns.
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12. Immediate Response

Where a concern arises staff must:

1. Prioritise safety.
 2. Inform the DSL immediately.
 3. Secure any substance safely.
 4. Record the concern.
 5. Seek emergency medical assistance if required.
 6. Record the concern.
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13. Searching and Confiscation

The school will follow current DfE Searching, Screening and Confiscation Guidance.

Where appropriate:

- prohibited items may be confiscated;
- searches may be conducted by authorised staff;
- police advice may be sought;
- all actions will be fully recorded.

Management of Confiscated Substances

Where substances or related items are discovered:

- The safety of pupils and staff will be prioritised.
- The substance will be secured by an authorised member of staff.
- The Headteacher and DSL will be informed immediately.
- Parents/carers will normally be informed unless this would increase safeguarding risk.
- Police advice will be sought where appropriate.
- Confiscated substances will not be returned to pupils.
- A written record will be maintained of all actions taken.

All incidents will be managed proportionately and in line with safeguarding procedures.

Sharps and Drug Paraphernalia

Drug-related paraphernalia may include:

- Needles and sharps.
- Vapes and vaping devices.
- Tobacco products.
- Alcohol containers.
- Drug packaging or preparation equipment.

Pupils must never handle suspicious items.

Where such items are discovered:

- The area will be made safe.
- A trained adult will manage collection and disposal.
- Appropriate protective equipment will be used.
- The incident will be recorded and reported to the DSL.

14. Safeguarding Considerations

Every drug-related incident will be considered as a potential safeguarding concern.

The DSL will assess whether:

- Early Help is required;
- Children's Social Care should be consulted;
- the police should be informed;
- health services should be involved.

Child Protection and Early Help

The school recognises that substance misuse may be linked to wider safeguarding concerns, including:

- Neglect.
- Domestic abuse.
- Exploitation.
- Mental health difficulties.
- Family substance misuse.

Where concerns suggest a child may be at risk of harm, the DSL will consider:

- Early Help intervention.
- Consultation with Children's Social Care.
- Referral to other relevant safeguarding agencies.

The welfare of the child will remain the school's primary consideration at all times.

15.Support for Pupils

The school recognises that some pupils may be affected by:

- parental drug misuse;
- parental alcohol dependency;
- family substance misuse;
- exposure to substance use within the community.

Support may include:

- pastoral support;
 - safeguarding intervention;
 - Early Help;
 - referral to external services.
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16.Working with Parents

Parents will normally be informed of concerns involving drugs, alcohol, tobacco or vaping unless doing so would place a child at increased risk.

The school will work positively with families wherever possible.

17.Recording and Monitoring

All drug-related concerns will be:

- recorded on the school's safeguarding system;
 - monitored by the DSL;
 - reviewed to identify emerging trends.
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18.Monitoring and Review

The policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier if:

- legislation changes;
- DfE guidance changes;
- significant incidents indicate the need for amendment.