

# **ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY**



## **DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY**

Review date: Autumn Term 2017

Next review: May 2022

## INTRODUCTION

At St Patrick's School we acknowledge that drugs affect all communities in modern society. We have moral and legal obligation to the children in our care to address this issue and to ensure that we do all we can to:

- Inform pupils, parents and staff about the risks and consequences of drug misuse, linked to other substances - including alcohol, tobacco and solvents - where appropriate.
- Teach young people both in and out of formal education settings - the skills needed to resist pressure to misuse drugs, including a more integrated approach to Health Education, with particular guidance to DfE and County guidance.
- Help make the misuse of drugs less culturally acceptable to young people, including the use of effective and targeted national and local publicity and information.
- Promote healthy lifestyles and positive activities not involving drugs and other substance misuse.
- Build on and disseminate good practice in identifying what works best in prevention and education activity.

## AIMS

In our school we will aim through implicit and explicit learning experiences to:

- ✓ increase pupils' knowledge of the dangers of smoking, alcohol abuse, the use of solvents and drug abuse.
- ✓ help pupils to understand the beneficial part drugs play in society.
- ✓ teach children that all medicines are drugs, but not all drugs are medicines.
- ✓ educate pupils on how to make informed choices.
- ✓ teach strategies to help pupils resist pressure from their peers.

Effective teaching of drug education will increase pupils' knowledge of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, and also enable pupils to:

- Through the DARE programme in Year 6
- Explicit teaching in PHSE lessons in KS2
- ✓ Improve their self-esteem
- ✓ Make informed choices and decisions
- ✓ Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility
- ✓ Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others.
- ✓ Maintain and develop relationships.
- ✓ Develop self-confidence.
- ✓ Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations.
- ✓ Develop the motivation to succeed.

Within the taught and hidden curriculum (i.e. the whole school environment) pupils should be given frequent and regular opportunities to work on feelings and to practice personal and interpersonal skills. We value and respect the learning that occurs in the community and in the home, believing that these, alongside school links, are essential dimensions of drug education.

To be reviewed by Staff and Governors May 2021

DRAFT