

BARNES GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Drugs Education policy

We regard drugs education as a whole-school issue, and we believe that opportunities to teach about the importance of living a healthy lifestyle occur throughout the curriculum.

Our PSHE curriculum supports this in an informed and age appropriate way. This moves from learning about medicines to household products and drugs common in everyday life to learning about laws, regulations and choices relating to drug use in everyday life including the media.

Each class teacher answers questions about drugs sensitively and appropriately, as they occur. In PSHE lessons, we encourage children to discuss issues that are important to them when delivering our curriculum.

The main teaching about drugs takes place in Year 6, where the children are taught about illegal drugs, and the dangers involved to those who take them. Lessons that focus on drug education form part of a sequence of lessons that are designed to promote a healthy lifestyle in children.

The children's class teacher teaches them drug education in normal lesson time. The teaching style that we use encourages children to ask questions and reflect on the dangers to health of drug misuse. Children explore issues, such as why people take drugs, and how they can avoid putting themselves in danger in the future. We give children the opportunity to talk in groups or to the whole class. We encourage them to listen to the views of others and we ask them to explore why drugs are such a problem for society.

It is the responsibility of the headteacher to ensure that staff and parents are informed about this drugs education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the headteacher's role to ensure that staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity. The headteacher will liaise with external agencies regarding the school drugs education programme and ensure that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy and work within this framework.

The governing body has the responsibility of setting down these general guidelines on drugs education. The governors will support the headteacher in following these guidelines, informing and consulting with parents about the drugs education policy.

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's drugs education lies with parents. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective, we will inform parents about the school drugs education policy and practice, answer any questions parents may have about the drugs education their child receives in school and take seriously any issue which parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for drugs education in the school.

Date Sept 2024	Responsible Governors Full Governing Body	Review in September 2025
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