



Robert Clack School of Science

Drug Education Policy 2026 - 2027

Approved by Executive Headteacher:

Date: September 2026

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Date: September 2026

Last reviewed on: September 2026

Next review due by: September 2029

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Rationale

- Robert Clack School condones neither the misuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school, nor the illegal supply of these substances.
- The school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will act to safeguard their well-being in all school related activities.
- The dangers of drug misuse are well known. It imposes a huge cost in terms of human suffering, lost opportunities, deaths and fear on the individuals who misuse drugs, the families and friends who have to cope with the consequences of their drug misuse and the communities in which they live.
- The school acknowledges the detrimental educational effects of substance misuse on pupils' achievement, and recognises the responsibility of all members of the school community to provide positive role models.

Purpose

- The school believes it has a duty to provide all pupils with appropriate, up-to-date and accurate information on which to build their decisions about drugs.
- Pupils need an opportunity to develop skills by exploring the circumstances and situations in which knowledge may be applied. Understanding needs to accompany this knowledge, together with the skills to apply to this understanding. This has to be developed through reflection and discussion.
- The School has a duty to promote wellbeing and is also required to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. As part of this the School's know its responsibility in helping young people manage risk, reducing the likelihood they may be harmed by use of legal and illegal drugs.

Aims

- The aims of the School's drugs education curriculum is to:
 - a) Increase knowledge and understanding, clarifying misconceptions about the short and long term effects of drugs, laws relating to drugs, the impact of drugs on families, communities, and personal behaviour and the moral, social, and emotional issues surrounding drugs
 - b) Develop young people's personal and social skills to make informed decisions to stay safe and healthy including finding information and advice and devising coping strategies

Delivery

- Delivery takes place through bi-weekly form sessions as conducted by form tutors.
- The curriculum is spiraled to ensure appropriate content delivery at each year group.
- The school also recognises the importance of using outside organisations to deliver content to pupils to ensure that their wellbeing needs are met.

Outside Agencies

- The involvement of outside agencies (e.g. drug agencies, school nurse etc) is a valuable addition to the expertise of the school's teaching staff.
- The curriculum delivered will be planned and supervised by the school, in accordance with the national Curriculum, National Healthy School Standard and following local and national guidance.
- Sessions reflect on the learning from particular sessions with pupils and visitors, assessing the learning, and building skills and pro-health attitudes

Lead Governor

- A member of the governing body will be appointed as lead governor with governing body responsibility in drug-related matters.
- Training in drug education will be given to build governor expertise and acknowledge their level of responsibility.

Staff Training

- All school staff (teaching and non-teaching) will have access to appropriate and regular training in drug education. The PSHE handbook gives guidance on resources and resources are centralized to ensure consistency.

Guidelines

- The Drug Education programme and any drug related incidents will follow the guidelines in the three documents, The Right Choice, The Right Approach and The Right Response. These documents nationally endorsed by DfES, OFSTED and QCA have been adopted by the DAT and were issued to all LEA schools in 2000. They form the basis for all drug education work at this school as with others in the LEA.
- The school has procedures in place to deal with drug related incidents. All suspected drug-related incidents must be referred immediately to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher in his absence. Advice will be sought from the police as to how the incident will be resolved.
- A designated first-aider will deal with individuals affected by any drug-related incident.
- The school's bereavement policy, in the emergency plan, outlines how the school will deal with any drug-related incident that results in a tragedy.

Links with other policies

- The Drug Education policy links and is consistent with all other school policies, particularly in relation to PSHE, school behaviour and discipline policy, and structures e.g. home/school agreement, action plans etc.

Definition of a Drug

- The term 'drug' means all substances capable of misuse. These include alcohol, tobacco, medicines and prescribed drugs, volatile substances and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, heroin, crack cocaine LSD and any legal "high".

Monitoring and Evaluation

- The Drug Education programme will be regularly monitored as other curriculum areas. Amendments will be brought about to improve its effectiveness and to maintain its relevance to the whole school.

Cross-Phase Liaison

- Cross-phase liaison will be ensured through adherence to the QCA Drug Education Plan and National Curriculum Science. The Drug Education curriculum demonstrates a coherent progression through all Key Stage 3 into Key Stage 4.

Funding

- The drug education programme within PSHE is funded to maintain the relevance of resources. Updating of staff professional development in line with national and local guidance is funded through the school's INSET budget. Other appropriate stimuli e.g. visiting theatre groups are funded centrally.

Exclusions

The school's behaviour policy and school rules accommodate any drug-related incident. Any such incident will be dealt with in line with the school's and LEA's policies.

Liaison with Parents/Carers

- Parental involvement will be sought through the normal channels of communication.

Pupil/Student Input

- Student input is an important component of the drug education policy and programme. Student views will be sought via the ALQ survey, school council and in PSHE lessons.

Location of the Policy

- The policy will be located within the Staff Handbook and with the Governing Body.

What Drugs Will Be Covered

- Drugs covered will reflect the relevant Key Stage taught, see appendix 2 in The Right Approach.

To Whom the Policy Relates and Where

- This policy relates to all members of the school during school and extended hours, both on the school premises and its environs. Visitors to the school must adhere to the policy.
- Trips organised by the school will accommodate the policy in accordance with LEA and national guidance.

Drug Education – Clearly Defined Within the PSHE Programme

- The drug education programme is one of the key elements in the PSHE spiral curriculum as detailed above.

The Media

- The school has a designated person responsible for dealing with any media enquiries.
- The school will ensure that where possible, there is a consistency of information with all parties involved.
- The school will endeavour to respect the privacy of all individuals concerned.