

# PSHE FACTSHEET

## Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education

### What should your school have?

- A whole school agreed and up-to-date Drugs Education Policy linked to Health and Safety, medicines and other relevant school policies ✓
- Clearly defined and transparent, drugs incident management procedures ✓
- A schools Drugs Co-ordinator to ensure effective curriculum delivery, staff training and issue management ✓
- A lead Governor for school drugs issues ✓
- Whole school drugs CDP, in line with current guidance ✓
- A developmental scheme of work that meets the requirements of the current Programmes of Study ✓
- Teachers who feel confident and supported to deliver the local and national agenda ✓
- Interactive teaching methods and assessment of pupil progress across the curriculum ✓
- Effective and supportive external partnerships with parents/carers and communities to complement, not replace teacher delivery ✓

### What should be taught?

- All areas of drug use including alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, medicines and volatile substances (See QCA Guidance) ✓
- What the Laws say, purposes and justifications linked to anti-social behaviours ✓
- Personal safety, keeping safe and family/community impact ✓
- Managing peer influence, feelings, emotions and handling difficult situations ✓
- Problem solving, decision-making, communication and coping skills ✓
- Links with other themes within PSHE – Sex and Relationships Education, bullying, anti-social behaviours, work related learning and economic well-being ✓
- How to and where to find help/support from ✓
- Attitudinal change and normative education ✓
- Engaging parents/families to support and strengthen learning outcomes ✓

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: Is it better to use external providers?

A: Many young people say they prefer to receive Drugs Education from external providers and ex-users. However, external providers cannot be relied upon entirely to deliver drugs education. Their work should be overseen by a qualified teacher and it cannot be assumed that all external providers provide the same quality service. The SDEAs can provide guidelines for working with external providers.

### Q: How to deal with drug related incidents and off site visits?

A: Every case is different and will need a tailor made response. Exclusion should only be considered after all other possible measures have been considered and implemented or there is danger to other school users. CFE have produced a flow chart and guidance for schools. Contacting the SDEAs can also inform or help you to make a response.

### Q: What should I do about school health and safety issues such as smoking regulations, alcohol use and medicines?

A: Health and Safety policies must be transparent and apply to all areas of school life. Consultation with the whole school community and having clearly articulated rules, can be supportive and helpful. Be clear about staff and pupil relationships, boundaries and the use of alcohol. Ensure school policy documents are up-to-date and understood by all.

### Q: How do we involve parents?

A: One of the best ways of doing this is to involve parents in drawing up and reviewing the Drugs and PSHE Policy. Also, ensure parents are given opportunities to see the resources that are being used. Homework tasks can help support parents and provide them with opportunities to talk and discuss family issues, expectations and boundaries. Keeping parents informed about drug education content can be helpful and reduce their anxieties.

### Q: How or where to refer parents or young people who need help or support?

A: The SDEAs can help support schools through this process. Referrals for assessment and treatment can also be made by using the Drug Use Screening Tool. Please use contact details below.

## Resources and Support

- For initial advice and support contact: Schools Drugs Education Advisers: Anne Lord / Karl Love / Kate Craib - <http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/children/drugs.cfm>
- For current curriculum guidance: <http://curriculum.qca.org.uk/>  
See also <http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk> for lesson ideas and resources
- DCSF Policy and Statutory guidance: <http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/>
- See also the Every Child Matters pages: <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk>
- Parents and young people information and support helpline: [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com) (0800 77 66 00)
- Drugscope – [www.drugscope.org.uk](http://www.drugscope.org.uk) (useful national data)