

HAZELEY ACADEMY



Drug Education Policy

Drug Education Policy

At The Hazeley Academy we believe that there is no place for the misuse of drugs in our Academy community.

Although any breach of Academy rules relating to drugs is considered individually, it is normal practice at The Hazeley Academy to exclude any student involved either permanently or for a fixed term.

The severity of the exclusion will depend on the circumstances in each case.

(See Appendix 2 for Dealing with a drugs related medical emergency.)

1. AIMS OF THE POLICY

This policy aims to outline our approach to drugs education at The Hazeley Academy and to detail the procedure for management of a drugs related incident. Our main concern is for the welfare of the students and minimising the impact of drugs on any member of The Hazeley Academy community.

2. INTRODUCTION

The definition of a drug given by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is; “a substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave.”

The term “drugs” and “drug education”, unless otherwise stated, is used throughout this document to refer to all drugs:

- All illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- All legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled – volatile substance abuse), ketamine, chat and alkyl nitrates (known as poppers)
- Psychoactive substances (NPS)
- All over the counter-and-prescription medicines.

In this document, the word ‘drug’ is used to include all drugs whatever their legal or social status, including alcohol, tobacco, solvents and medicines. We recognise that any drug recklessly used can be potentially hazardous.

Drug education at The Hazeley Academy is about the use and misuse of drugs (refer to glossary for definitions and key words). It is a vital part of “preparing students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.” Schools have to lay the all-important foundations for learning, which will go on for the rest of life. We need to select information and plan activities, which are appropriate to the age, stage of development and background of the students in our Academy. Also, taking into account both national and local trends.

There is no legal right of parental withdrawal from drug education as there is with sex education.

This policy aims to respond to both national and local findings (evidence supplied by OFSTED “A Time for Change 2007 and Compass 2008) which both suggest that the main areas of substance misuse amongst young people remain cannabis and alcohol. Within in Milton Keynes this trend has been shown to be 20% higher than in other parts of the country. By implementing our Drugs Policy we are responding to the Every Child Matters and Healthy Schools initiatives, enabling our students to make healthy choices and stay safe.

In addition, the issue of “Hidden Harm”, as highlighted by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs report from 2003, is addressed. Please see later in the policy for details.

This policy was drawn up, in consultation with Board of Directors, staff, students and parents. Further comments, feedback or suggestions will be considered as they are received.

3. DRUG EDUCATION AT THE HAZELEY ACADEMY AIMS:

- to enable students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing and practising skills;
- to provide accurate information about substances that are relevant;
- to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse;
- to encourage understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance misuse;
- to seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face;
- to enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support;
- to provide a range of activities and opportunities for learning about drugs and the issues raised by their use;
- to create a climate in which our students feel comfortable discussing their perceptions of drugs;
- to encourage our students to participate in healthy activities;
- to help our students to accept the increasing responsibility they have for maintaining their own health.

4. DRUG EDUCATION KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To recognise long and short term consequences when making decisions about personal health.
- To know basic facts and laws relating to drugs.
- To know about the health risks of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs to bodily functions.
- To know about statutory and voluntary organisations that relate to Drug Alcohol and Tobacco use

For information about resources and their selection see Appendix 1

5. DRUGS RELATED TRAINING (including Hidden Harm)

The Hazeley Academy is committed to providing and supporting training on drugs related issues.

6. ASSESSMENT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This will be the responsibility of the Lifeskills/ Wellbeing co-ordinator. They will ensure that we are meeting our obligations to all students through the monitoring of delivery in all subject areas, identifying areas that are not being met in this way and organising relevant visitors and drop down days to supplement provision and development of student evaluation tools to inform planning for provision in the future.

To support us in meeting the needs of all students we employ the services of outside agencies such as Connexions, Brook, The Parish Council, YIS and Compass.

6.1 Staff Members with responsibility for drug issues:

Academy Lead First Aider – Administration of medication and arrangement of relevant training.
Drugs Education co-ordinator (usually Lifeskills/Wellbeing co-ordinator)
Child Protection officer's in relation to issues of drug misuse.
Members of the Personalisation team

7. THE MANAGEMENT OF DRUG-RELATED INCIDENTS ON ACADEMY PREMISES (see Appendix 2 for dealing with a drugs related medical emergency)

The health and well-being of students the main concern in the management of drug-related incidents on Academy premises.

This policy and procedures apply to:

- all legal and illegal drugs and medicines;
- all students, staff and visitors to the Academy;
- the Academy premises;
- educational visits, residential courses and extra-curricular activities for students.

The possession, use or supply of any drug by any member of the Academy community or visitor is regarded as a breach of the Academy rules and the appropriate disciplinary procedure will be initiated, with the exception of:

- *the use of medicines by students with parental notification and knowledge by the Academy Lead First Aider , or equivalent.*
- *the appropriate use of medicines by staff.*
- *the smoking of tobacco by staff on journeys between the Academy and home.*
- *consumption of alcohol by staff and visitors over the age of 18 during social occasions on the premises.*

There are no circumstances in which it is appropriate/acceptable for staff or visitors to use tobacco or illegal drugs or alcohol in the presence of students whilst on Academy business.

Any information about illegal drugs or the illicit sale of legal drugs outside the scope of this policy as defined above, will be passed on to the police. This includes sale of tobacco, solvents and alcohol to under age people, and any information about the use, possession or supply of illegal drugs.

7.1 The Academy procedures

In response to disclosure, information from another student or staff member or observation of suspicious behaviour or symptoms

Any student in contact with drugs or with others in possession of drugs will be referred to the Child Protection Officer (CPO). We would stress to the informant that confidentiality should be observed and that information may need to be passed on to the Police.

The CPO should meet with the student and a second adult. This meeting should establish whether there are grounds for further action or not.

A record of this meeting should go on the child at risk register whether or not further action is taken.

This meeting may identify other personal or social problems that underlie the use of drugs and an appropriate pastoral or disciplinary response to the situation.

The CPO should keep a written record of all the above.

At this meeting an explanation should be given to the student of the principles of confidentiality which apply.

The student will then be advised to seek help if required from an appropriate source of support which may be arranged for them, if they request it. This may include a specialist substance misuse agency. Their parent/carer will be informed. At the discretion of the Academy consideration should be given to contacting the Police and, if this occurs, the student should be informed.

7.2 When substances are found on a student

When a student is found in possession of drugs, using or supplying drugs the member of staff present should remove the student to the CPO or Leadership Team Member or if none are available, R2L, or call for one of these to remove the student.

The student should be asked to hand over any drugs or evidence in the presence of an adult witness. The Principal can authorise a search of a student and their possessions (including bags and lockers) without their consent (Education and Inspections Act 2001 Section 5502a) where they suspect the student has weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs or stolen items. The authorised member of staff must be the same gender as the student being searched. A second member of staff, also of the same gender as the student being searched, should also witness the search.

If the student refuses to co-operate with the request the Police should be called immediately.

If the student has drugs in their possession the Police should be called immediately by the CPO who should also inform the student's parents/carers immediately. Samples of suspected illegal substances will be handed to the Principal who will store them in the Academy safe together with a signed and witnessed statement, including all relevant information about the source of the sample.

The following should be carefully documented during the incident for Police use.

- a) the names of persons involved
- b) the time and date of the incident
- c) the location of the incident
- d) the location of the drug/substance when found
- e) the procedures followed by the staff present

On the arrival of the Police the substances removed should be handed over. The Police will remove the substances for investigation and be responsible for their disposal.

In the event of the above the student should be placed in a separate room by the CPO or Leadership Team Member until the Police arrive. No physical restraint will be employed to prevent the student leaving the Academy site. The student should not be left alone at any time.

The Academy should in all circumstances encourage the parent/carers as well as the student involved to seek help and guidance, which may be obtained from an appropriate agency. Information will be made available to the student and/or the parents/guardians by the Academy.

In all circumstances information about such incidents should be kept to a minimum number of people on a "Need to know" basis. The Academy must inform all staff of the circumstances in which it is considered appropriate to disclose information about such incidents and to whom disclosure can be made. Breach of this policy will be regarded as a serious matter. Before interviewing young people it should be clearly indicated to them that information given may be disclosed and in what circumstances. The Principal should be informed as a matter of course.

Communication with the media will also be handled at the appropriate level within the Academy by the Principal.

Until the next review of this policy the agreed procedures (Drug situations - medical emergencies, and situations involving drugs without medical authority) will be distributed to all staff, applied in relevant circumstances, and details recorded on the At Risk Register.

The effectiveness of these will be assessed during the next review of the policy.

- Parents will be contacted immediately in the case of a medical emergency, if the police are called to carry out a personal search, and at the assessment stage in other situations. If a decision is made not to inform parents because this may compromise the child's safety, the reasons for the decision will be clearly defined and recorded.
- Teachers/non-teaching staff need to be alert to warning signs that a person is using drugs.
- The site team should be aware of the need to check regularly for any visible signs, (e.g. discarded needles, tin foil, cigarette ends, empty beer bottles etc.) of drug use.
- All medication that comes into the Academy, whether it is prescribed by a doctor or "over the counter medication" must be handed in to the front office for the attention of Lead First Aider, Medical Room. Please see Policy for Storage and Administration of Medicines for further information.
- The Academy will call upon a range of specialised agencies, which can support at-risk children. These may include:
 - Local health and social services
 - Police Academy Liaison Officer
 - Compass

7.3 Pastoral Support for Students who experience Drugs related Difficulties

At The Hazeley Academy the well being of our students is taken very seriously. Staff are approachable and offer caring and sensitive pastoral support to all students. This includes those directly involved in substance misuse or those affected by it, including Hidden Harm issues. This may include parental/family drug/alcohol use. All staff will listen and provide relevant advice on an individual basis including the signposting of students to more appropriate support e.g. Lead First Aider, who can respond to the student's needs directly or by referral to outside agencies such as Compass or Frank.

Contact details for National agencies and helplines are included within the PSHEE programme and can be made available to students upon request.

7.4 Confidentiality

Teachers cannot and should not promise total confidentiality. The boundaries of confidentiality should be made clear to students. If a student discloses information which is sensitive, not generally known, and which the student asks not to be passed on, it should be discussed with the Child Protection Officer. The request will be honoured unless this is unavailable in order for teachers to fulfil their professional responsibilities in relation to:

- Child protection
- Co-operating with a police investigation
- Referral to external services
- Every effort will be made to secure the student's agreement to confidentiality.

8. GLOSSARY

Drug Misuse

Drug misuse is drug taking which leads a person to experience social, psychological, physical or legal problems related to intoxication or regular excessive consumption and/or dependence. It may be part of a wider spectrum of problematic or harmful behaviour and require specific interventions, including treatment.

Drug use

Drug use is drug taking, for example, consuming alcohol, taking medication or using illegal drugs. Any drug use can potentially lead to harm, whether through intoxication, breach of the law or of the Academy rules, or the possibility of future health problems, although such harm may not be immediately apparent. Drug use will require interventions such as management, education, advice and information, and prevention work to reduce the potential for harm.

Volatile substance abuse

Volatile substance abuse refers to the inhalation, sometimes referred to as 'sniffing', of gas or vapours from volatile substances, including butane and propane, aerosol propellants, some glues and solvents, petrol, etc, for intoxicating purposes. The effects are much like those of alcohol, though they do not last as long. This can be referred to as solvent misuse.

APPENDIX 1

Resources

All resources used have been assessed against the key criteria for good drug education materials.

Key criteria for good drug education materials

1. Clearly stating underpinning beliefs and values.
2. Showing how the materials incorporate students' existing drug awareness.
3. Offering a range of activities, based on successful teaching and learning styles.
4. Giving accurate and balanced facts, not aiming to shock or horrify.
5. Assessing aims and objectives.
6. Including examples of how the materials meet statutory and non-statutory learning outcomes.
7. Cross-referencing to target ages, national curriculum key stages and cross-curricular subjects.
8. Accommodating different models and the Academy timetables.
9. Guiding on the knowledge, understanding and skills required to deliver the materials.
10. Recognising the importance of parental understanding, support and involvement.
11. Providing evidence of successful use in schools/academies.

The Hazeley Academy will use a variety of teaching methods to ensure active learning takes place on the issues of drug education, such methods may include:

- Circle time
- Debate
- Role Play
- DVD
- Use of external contributors
- Research
- Theatre in Education
- Interactive ICT

This list is not exhaustive.

Principle resources for this subject can be accessed via the life skills/wellbeing co-ordinator

The local young people's drug support service, Compass, contribute to our Drug Education programme. The use of external agencies is an integrated part of the Lifeskills programme at The Hazeley Academy. All contributors are used to working in school environments. It is the Academy's policy not to leave any visitors alone with any students at anytime.

CHECKLIST FOR SELECTING RESOURCES

It is unlikely that any one resource will generate a positive response to every aspect of the checklist, but positive answers to a high proportion are desirable.

Good practice principles	Yes/No
Are the underpinning values and beliefs clearly stated, and are they consistent with those of the Academy?	
Are drugs defined to include medicines, alcohol, tobacco, volatile substance and illegal drugs?	
Is there guidance on identifying students' levels of knowledge and experience of drug use and how to incorporate this into planning?	
Do activities cover a range of teaching and learning styles?	
Is there guidance on evaluating activities?	
Are the materials free from racial, gender and sexist stereotypes?	
Do the materials take account of religious, cultural, physical diversity and special educational needs?	
Does the material suggest ways of involving parents and the community in drug education?	
Has the material been developed in consultation with students and teachers and has the effectiveness been evaluated?	
Does the material include guidance on the knowledge and skills needed for effective delivery and help build teacher confidence?	
Teaching and Learning	
Does the material outline processes for establishing a safe learning environment?	
Is active learning promoted?	
Are discussion and reflection encouraged?	
Do the activities cover the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes?	
Is the content differentiated and can it be adapted for use with particular groups of students?	
Is guidance given on assessing learning outcomes?	

APPENDIX 2

FIRST AID FOR A POISONING

Many substances are only poisonous if an abnormally large amount is taken. For example, Paracetamol is harmless if you take one or two tablets for a headache, but is poisonous if you take an overdose.

Recognition

ASPRIN

- Upper abdominal pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Ringing in the ears
- Confusion and delirium
- 'Sighing' when breathing
- Dizziness

PARACETAMOL

- Developing abdominal pains
- Nausea and Vomiting

TRANQUILLISERS (ANTI-DEPRESSANTS)

- Lethargy, sleepiness leading to unconsciousness
- Shallow breathing
- Weak irregular pulse

NARCOTICS

- Small pupils
- Sluggish and confusion, possible leading to unconsciousness
- Slow, shallow breathing which may stop
- Needle marks

SOLVENTS

- Nausea and vomiting
- Headaches
- Hallucinations
- Unconsciousness

STIMULANTS

- Excitable, hyperactive behaviour
- Sweating
- Tremors
- Hallucinations

ALCOHOL POISONING

- Smell of alcohol on breath

- Evidence of empty containers
- Impaired consciousness

TREATMENT

- Protect yourself
- If conscious place them in a comfortable position and try to establish what has been taken
- Call for an Ambulance – 999/112
- Try to establish what drug they have taken
- Monitor their breathing
- If they become unconscious place into the safe airway position
- Continue to monitor breathing
- Be prepared to resuscitate
- Keep samples of vomit materials and try to find evidence of the drug that was taken

APPENDIX 3

Hidden Harm

The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs has a statutory duty to advise Government. Its report “Hidden Harm” produced in 2003 focussed on the impact on children of parental problem drug use.

The report:

- Assessed the number of affected children in the UK
- Examined evidence of significant harm to children’s health and well-being
- Examined what was being done at present to help children
- Made 48 recommendations to agencies of what more could be done

Problem drug use by adults is characterised by:

- The use of multiple drugs, often injection
- Association with socio-economic deprivation and other factors – physical, psychological, social, interpersonal, finance and legal – that may affect parenting capacity
- Chaotic and unpredictable life styles
- Serious health problems and social consequences

As a result children and young people may be exposed to these hazards:

- Physical and emotional abuse or neglect and other inappropriate parenting practices, with intermittent or permanent separation
- Mental health problems
- Poverty, inadequate and frequently changing accommodation
- Toxic substances in the home and criminal or other inappropriate adult behaviour
- Engagement with criminal activities and social exclusion
- Interrupted or otherwise unsatisfactory education and socialisation and educational under-achievement

Appendix 4

Useful Organisations

Addaction is one of the UK's largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents. Website: www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services.

Tel: 020 7553 7640

Email: admin@adfam.org.uk Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Concern works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems

Tel: 020 7264 0510. Email: contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk Website: www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) A campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco.

Tel: 020 7739 5902

Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk Website: www.ash.org.uk

Children's Legal Centre operates a free and confidential legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people.

Tel: 01206 877910 Email: clc@essex.ac.uk Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Children's Rights Alliance for England - A charity working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Email: info@crae.org.uk Website: www.crae.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm. Tel: 020 7307 7450 Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk/

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking.

Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

DrugScope is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum. Tel: 020 7520 7550
Email: info@drugscope.org.uk Website: www.drugscope.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs. 24 Hour Helpline: 0800 776600 Email: frank@talktofrank.com Website: www.talktofrank.com

Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives. Tel: 020 7739 8494. Email admin@mentoruk.org Website: www.mentoruk.org.uk

National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives. Tel: 020 7843 6000 Website: www.ncb.org.uk

Family Lives - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects. Tel: 0800 800 2222 Website: <http://familylives.org.uk/>

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse) A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people. Tel: 01785 817885 Information line: 01785 810762 Email: information@re-solv.org Website: www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0800 169 0 169 Website: <http://smokefree.nhs.uk>

Stars National Initiative offers support for anyone working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse. Website: www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk

Youth Offending Teams – Local Youth Offending Teams are multi-agency teams and are the responsibility of the local authority, who have a statutory duty to [prevent offending by young people under the age of 18. Website: <https://www.gov.uk/youth-offending-team> 15