



DRUGS & ALCOHOL POLICY NOVEMBER 2025

This policy is linked to and should be read in conjunction with the Shalford Infant School *Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy*

Policy Originator: Headteacher

Status: Non-statutory

Review Period: Three Years

Date: November 2025

Next review date: November 2028

AIMS

- To promote the ability of pupils to make informed healthy choices and decisions that will keep them safe
- To enable pupils to identify sources of appropriate personal support
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse of drugs

The Drugs and Alcohol Policy is underpinned by the following values and moral aims:

- Supporting children in making informed choices based on knowing what is right and wrong
- Enabling children to develop their own personal code of values, which they put into practice
- Helping children to resolve moral issues and dilemmas, especially where there is conflict

Definition of terms

Drug:

All medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines. This document uses the term to refer to any psychotropic substances; all legal drugs including alcohol and tobacco, all illegal drugs, volatile substances and over the counter and prescription medicines.

Drug use:

The consumption of any drug. All drug use, including medicinal use, carries the potential for harm.

Drug misuse:

Drug taking through which harm may occur, whether through intoxication, breach of school rules or the possibility of future health problems.

Drug abuse:

Drug taking which harms health or functioning. It may be part of a wider spectrum of problematic or harmful behaviour.

Rationale for drug education

Drug use and misuse have become increasingly common in our society. Children and young people of school age are part of society and as such the school recognises the need to:

- Prepare and equip pupils for a life in a drug using society
- Deal with the broad range of drug related situations and incidents which may occur in the lives of our pupils and others involved in the life of the school

CURRICULUM CONTENT

Education about drugs is provided within a broader framework through the PSHE learning programme, where wider issues of healthy living, positive behaviour and social responsibility are promoted. When appropriate, understanding about drugs and alcohol are linked to related curriculum areas such as Science or within topic themes such as 'Healthy Living'

Early Years and Foundation Stage (Nursery & Reception Class)

Children learn

- the basic ways in which to look after your body
- that some equipment/resources can be harmful if not supervised by an adult
- there are people who help us to look after our bodies

Key Stage 1 (Year One & Year Two)

Children learn

- all medicines are drugs, but not all drugs are medicines
- there are school procedures relating to medicines
- the role of medicines (both prescribed and over-the counter) in promoting health and the reasons people use them
- all drugs can be harmful if not used properly
- simple safety rules about medicines and other substances used in the home
- to consider the general effects of alcohol and tobacco on health and behaviour
- about people who are involved with medicines (health professionals, pharmacists)
- who can help them if they have questions or concerns (parents, teachers, school nurse)

CONFIDENTIALITY

Teachers are aware that implementing a Drug and Alcohol Policy may lead to the disclosure of a Child Protection issue. If the teacher feels a child is at risk, the school's Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy will be followed.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Shalford Infant & Nursery School is committed to working towards equality of opportunity in all aspects of school life. Teaching and learning will be in line with school's Equal Opportunities Policy, taking into account the needs of SEND children.

THE SCHOOL'S POLICY TO LEGALLY AVAILABLE SUBSTANCES ON SITE

Cleaning substances used by staff and cleaners are kept in locked cupboards.

Tobacco

The school operates a no smoking policy at all times throughout the building and grounds. This applies to employees, parents and visitors. This also includes vaping.

Alcohol

The Headteacher must be consulted and permission obtained before arranging any functions at which alcohol may be consumed.

Solvents

The school recognizes that many ordinary substances lend themselves to misuse and therefore need to be carefully stored and managed.

Medication

Parents/carers must complete a treatment form before medicines can be administered by staff. Please note that the school will only administer medications that have been prescribed by a doctor