

# HURST PRIMARY SCHOOL



## *Dealing with Drug Related Incidents in School Policy*

Policy Reviewed: Spring Term 2017

To be Reviewed: Spring Term 2019

Signed:

Dated: 23/03/2017

# HURST PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Dealing with Drug Related Incidents in School

### 1. DRUGS IN SCHOOL

- 1.1 Where children have medical needs, parents provide the school with written details of the child's condition and medication. Parents will bring the medication to school in a secure labelled container. Records will be kept of all medication given and received. Emergency medication may be stored in the classroom (for anaphylaxis & asthma) other drugs will be stored securely in the medical room.
- 1.2 Solvents and other hazardous chemicals must be stored securely to prevent inappropriate access, or use by pupils.
- 1.3 Legal drugs are legitimately in school only when authorized by the Head Teacher. Members of staff who smoke must keep their tobacco, matches and lighters secure. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school site at any time of day.
- 1.4 Alcohol to be consumed at community or parents events will be stored securely beforehand. Occasionally members of staff may consume limited amounts of alcohol in the staff room or other areas as part of an end of term celebration or other special occasion. However, alcohol must never be consumed on site when the school is in session.

### 2. DEALING WITH INCIDENTS

- 2.1 An incident involving unauthorized drugs in schools is most likely to involve alcohol, tobacco or volatile substances, rather than an illegal drug.
- 2.2 The first priority is safety and first aid i.e. calling the emergency services and placing unconscious people in the recovery position. An intoxicated individual does not represent a medical emergency unless unconscious.
- 2.3 Any drug suspected of being illegal will be confiscated and stored securely awaiting disposal. These acts of confiscation must be witnessed and recorded.
- 2.4 Legal but unauthorised drugs or medicines will also be confiscated, and will be returned to parents. The school may arrange for the safe disposal of volatile substances.
- 2.6 Where a pupil is suspected of concealing an unauthorized drug, staff are not permitted to carry out a personal search, but may search pupils, bags, trays etc.
- 2.7 The Head Teacher will decide if the police need to be called or whether the school will manage the incident internally. A full record will be made of any incident.
- 2.8 The Head Teacher will conduct an investigation into the nature and seriousness of any incident, in order to determine an appropriate response.
- 2.9 When an incident concerning drugs has occurred in school and a pupil is involved the school will inform the parents and explain how we intend to respond to the incident.
- 2.10 Staff will be cautious about discharging a pupil to the care of an intoxicated parent, particularly when the parent intends driving the pupil home. Staff will suggest an alternative arrangement. The focus will be the pupil's welfare and safety. Where the behaviour of an intoxicated parent repeatedly places a child at risk, or the parent or carer becomes abusive or violent, staff should consider whether the circumstances of the case are serious enough to involve child protection procedures, and possibly the involvement of the police.

### **3. CONFIDENTIALITY**

Please refer to the school's Confidentiality Policy.

### **4. MONITORING AND REVIEWING**

- 4.1 The curriculum committee of the governing body will monitor the school's approach to drugs education and dealing with drug related incidents on a regular basis. If the policy appears to need modification, then the committee will report its findings and recommendations to the full governing body.