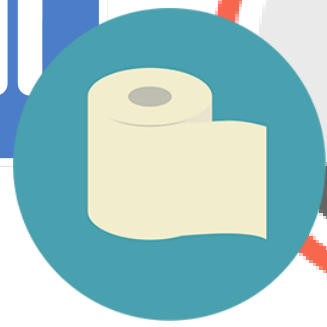


Rhydypenau Primary School

"Aiming High"



Drug and Alcohol Education Policy

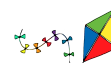


DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING & REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

The Headteacher, in cooperation with the governors, staff, parents and the Local Authority have responsibility for the implementation of this policy.

SCHEDULE FOR DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING & REVIEW

This policy was agreed by teachers:	
This policy was agreed and adopted by the Governing Body:	
The implementation of this policy will be reviewed by:	
This policy will be reviewed:	Every 3 years
This policy was last reviewed:	Autumn Term 2025
This policy is due to be reviewed:	Autumn Term 2028
Chair of Governors' Signature:	
Headteacher's Signature:	



INTRODUCTION

Drug education is an integral part of the provision of personal and social education (PSE) in our primary school. It is not common for primary aged children to use drugs or alcohol in school, but occasionally teachers suspect misuse among pupils and sometimes illegal substances are found on school premises. Even the youngest children need to be warned of the dangers of discarded needles and substances.

It is the policy of Rhydypenau Primary School for PSE issues, including drug education, to be woven into curricular topics and themes (e.g. science) and also to be incorporated into specific discrete sessions e.g. Circle Time.

For primary aged children, the national curriculum learning outcomes are as follows:

Foundation Phase: “Pupils should understand that we take medicines to make us better, but that some drugs can be dangerous”.

Key Stage 2: “Pupils should know the harmful effects, both to themselves and to others, of tobacco, alcohol, solvents and other illegal substances.”

In the New Curriculum for Wales Health and Wellbeing AOLE, What Matters statement 1 identifies:

Developing physical health and well-being has lifelong benefits.

This Area can help learners to understand the factors that affect physical health and well-being. This includes health-promoting behaviours such as physical activity, including but not limited to sport; balanced diet; personal care and hygiene; sleep; and protection from infection. It also includes an understanding of health-harming behaviours.

and What Matters statement 3 identifies:

Our decision-making impacts on the quality of our lives and the lives of others.

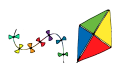
This Area can help learners to understand how decisions and actions impact on themselves, on others and on wider society, both now and in the future. It can also help learners understand the factors that influence decision-making, thus placing them in a better position to make more informed and considered decisions.

The staff and governors of Rhydypenau Primary School are therefore committed to:

- ★ providing a comprehensive drugs education programme
- ★ addressing the management of drug related incidents should they occur.

POSITION STATEMENT

We seek to:



- ★ provide appropriate information to children about drugs and alcohol and help them to understand the effects and likely consequences of misuse.
- ★ respond to the misuse of drugs or alcohol at school by informing parents and discussing further action.
- ★ respond appropriately to the illegal supply of drugs or alcohol at school.

AGREED POLICY

If a child is found with alcohol or any substance, legal or illegal, it will be removed and the parents informed. Under such circumstances, the school will consult with the schools' liaison officer about how to dispose of any drugs. There is no statutory requirement for a school to inform the police when illegal drugs are found on a pupil or on a school premises. Such action would be subject to discussion with the LA, the Chair of Governors and the Headteacher.

- ★ If the police are to be involved, the child's parents will always be contacted beforehand.
- ★ If a child is perceived to be at risk, the normal procedures would be followed (see Child Protection Policy.)
- ★ Pupils' desks or bags may be searched if there is reasonable cause to believe that they contain illegal substances.
- ★ Knowledge of possible illegal drug use outside school premises should be reported to the police. This is in the interests of safeguarding the health and safety of young people in the area.
- ★ Teachers offering advice to individual children should not guarantee confidentiality. It would be important to ensure that the child and family have access to those agencies which can offer counselling to pupils "at risk".
- ★ The school has a no smoking policy for all people on the school premises.
- ★ The grounds of the school are checked regularly for needles, syringes or any other drug paraphernalia.

RIGHTS RESPECTING APPROACHES

At Rhydypenau Primary School, we are committed to fostering an environment that values and upholds the rights of every child. We are proud to introduce a rights-respecting approach into our policies, recognising the inherent dignity and worth of each learner, Rhydypenau Primary School aims to align our practices with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) to nurture their strong sense of belonging, and instil a deep understanding of the rights and responsibilities to all stakeholders.

Article 33 (drug abuse)

Governments must protect children from the illegal use of drugs and from being involved in the production or distribution of drugs.

