

Compassion – Courage – Hope – Integrity – Justice  
Respect – Responsibility - Wisdom



**Herne Bay Junior School**

# Substance Abuse Policy

**Policy Agreed: Sept 2016**

**Review Date: Sept 2017**

'We recognise our duty to establish equality for all students, staff, other members of the school community and service users regardless of their ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or beliefs as defined within existing equalities legislation.'

**Our Community Code**

**Be kind**

**Be safe**

**Be the best you can be  
and make great choices!**

Herne Bay Junior School promotes the awareness of the dangers of the misuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school and the illegal supply of these substances.

The school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being.

The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of its pupils and, through the general ethos of the school, will seek to persuade pupils in need of support to come forward. Herne Bay Juniors believes it has a duty to inform and educate its pupils on the consequences of substance misuse and that Health Education is an important part of the PSE of every child. The school believes that this should also be a shared responsibility and parents should be involved and informed whenever it is felt to be appropriate. The school's educational aims in respect of substance use and misuse are as follows:

- to enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing and practising skills to provide accurate information about substances
- to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- to encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance use
- to widen understanding about related health and social issues, eg infections, crime
- to enable pupils to identify sources of appropriate personal support in the school. These aims are fostered through the taught curriculum and the informal curriculum. It is delivered in the taught curriculum mainly through PSHE, Science and English but other opportunities to reinforce learning could occur in other parts of the teaching program. The school actively co-operates with other agencies such as the Community Police, Area Health Authority, Social Services, KCSA and LEA to deliver its commitment to Substance Abuse Education and to deal with incidents of substance abuse and misuse. In instances involving substance misuse or supply on the premises, and following discussion between staff members who know the pupil, parents will be informed at the earliest opportunity by the Head Teacher. The school and the parents can then work together to support the pupil.

If a pupil admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the teacher's discretion will be involved but informing the Head Teacher is appropriate action. There is no legal obligation to inform the police though they may be able to give help and advice which might include a place on a Drug Support Program. However, a school cannot knowingly allow its premises to be used for the supply of any controlled substance. Where it is suspected that substances may be sold on the premises any information should be forwarded to the Head Teacher for appropriate action. The Governing Body will be involved in this area in the same manner as any other matter concerning the direction of the school.

The school will consider very carefully any actions that are taken, seeking to balance the interests of the pupil involved and the other school members. The Head Teacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media possibly following guidance from the LEA.

## **Smoking**

At Herne Bay Juniors, we seek to guarantee a healthy working and learning environment for all the school's users by eliminating the risk from passive smoking and by positively promoting non-smoking.

Smoking is not allowed on any part of the School premises during pupil hours and is discouraged during non-pupil hours with clearly worded and displayed signs to that effect.