



DRUG AND ALCOHOL MISUSE POLICY

Context

“We are aware of the increasing problem of drug misuse throughout the country and within our community. Our school will play a full part in contributing to efforts across our community to reduce drug misuse.”
(from Eastbourne Headteachers’ Joint Statement)

Definition

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), ketamine, khat and alkyl nitrites (known as poppers)
- All over-the-counter and prescription medicines.

We are committed to the principle of equal opportunity for all students and all staff. We aim to promote equal opportunity and to challenge stereotypes, combat prejudice and actively discourage any discrimination against individuals or groups on the basis of social class, race, ethnic group, nationality, religion, language, gender, marital status, family or home circumstances, sexual orientation, disability, political beliefs, trade union membership or non-membership, or age.

Status	Statutory
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Purpose

- To clarify the school’s approach to drugs for all staff, students, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community
- To set out our approach to teaching and learning about drugs and the management of situations involving them
- Enable staff to manage drugs misuse on school premises, and any incidents that occur, with confidence and consistency, and in the best interests of those involved
- Ensure that the response to incidents involving drugs complements the overall approach to drug education and the values and ethos of the school

The goal of drug and alcohol education is for students to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, promote responsibility towards the use of drugs and relate these to their own and others’ actions - both now and in their future lives by:

- Increasing students’ knowledge and understanding
- Developing students’ personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy
- Enabling students to explore their own and other people’s attitudes towards drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes, and exploring media and social influences.

Ratton School has a zero tolerance policy towards the possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs within the school boundaries and suppliers will always be permanently excluded.

Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors • Staff • Parents • Students • LEA Consultant • LEA Guidance/DfES Drugs Guidance for Schools
Relationship to other policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety • Behaviour • Health & Safety • Medicines • Off-site Activities and Educational Visits • Child Protection • Equal Opportunities
Relationship to standard operating procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural Agreement for Schools and Youth Services in cases of Substance Misuse (Drug and Alcohol Education Guidance for Schools 2003) • Procedure for response to drugs-related situations

Role	Responsibility
Governor (with responsibility for drugs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor the implementation of this policy and report to Governors on delivery in the PSHE curriculum and responses to drugs-related situations
Inclusion Manager (designated senior member of staff for drug-related situations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to drug-related situations according to the procedure
Curriculum Manager for Drama, Opening Minds, and RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership and management of Ratton's Drug and Alcohol Education curriculum in line with Drug and Alcohol Education Guidance for Schools 2003
All staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not to allow anyone to possess, produce, supply or offer illegal drugs on the premises in accordance with the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, by reporting their concern to the Inclusion Manager

Arrangements for Monitoring and Evaluation

Annual report to Governors' Student Welfare Committee by governor with responsibility for drugs

Date established by Governing body:	April 2010
Date for full implementation:	April 2010
Date of review:	April 2011

ANNEXES

Drugs and Alcohol Education Curriculum
Procedure for dealing with drug-related situations
Drug and Alcohol Education Guidance for Schools 2003
Drug and Alcohol Education Guidance for Schools 2003 - Summary
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime