



# MAYHILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Drug Policy

### School Commitment

Mayhill Junior School is committed to the health and safety of their children and staff and will take action to safeguard their well-being. They will actively discourage the use of illegal substances and the misuse of glue, solvents, and prescribed and over-the-counter medicines.

### Policy content

This policy deals with:

- the drugs education programme
- the management of drug-related incidents

### Drugs education programme

The aim of the drugs education programme is to:

- enable children to become accurately informed of the effects - good or bad - of drugs on health and make informed healthy choices
- make children aware of the legal aspects of drug-taking
- develop in children the ability to identify risks and help others to do so
- enhance children's decision-making skills and self-esteem
- enable children to communicate and discuss drug-related issues
- enable children to assert themselves and resist peer pressure
- explore attitudes

Drug education will be part of the Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship programme and will be supported by each school's participation in the Getting It Right initiative involving visits by school liaison officers from Hampshire Constabulary.

At Mayhill, children will learn about general issues with regard to medicines and keeping healthy. Children will be taught about the use and misuse of drugs. Children will take part in activities which aim to develop their self-confidence and assertiveness.

### Management of drug-related incidents

Where a child is found in possession of cigarettes, vaping paraphernalia, alcohol, glue, solvents or any other inappropriate substance, parents will be informed and appropriate steps taken.

Hearsay or suspicion that a pupil might be engaged in substance misuse or other concerns should be reported to the Headteacher. If there is a reasonable suspicion that a child has brought inappropriate substances into school, staff will not initially search a child's property or person, but will try to persuade the child to produce voluntarily the substance by asking him/her to turn out his/her pockets or bag.

Mayhill follows the advice set out in [Searching, Screening and Confiscation guidance](#) July 2022 which recognises that:

1. School staff can search a pupil for any item if the pupil agrees.
2. Headteachers and staff authorised by them have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item. Prohibited items are:

- knives or weapons
- alcohol
- illegal drugs
- stolen items
- tobacco and cigarette papers or vaping paraphernalia
- fireworks
- pornographic images
- any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used:
  - to commit an offence, or
  - to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil).
- Headteachers and authorised staff can also search for any item banned by the school rules which has been identified in the rules as an item which may be searched for.

In an emergency arising from an incident involving substance abuse, the well-being of the child is paramount and all steps will be taken to ensure the child's safety.

The misuse of drugs is a serious matter and, in the event of any serious incident, the school will consult the police and parents will be informed.

## County Lines

Mayhill recognises the risk to young children in being involved in the movement of drugs. Staff at Mayhill will receive annual training to ensure they are aware of signs of such activity and should report any concerns to the DSL or DDSLs.

## Staff development

All staff will be informed of this policy and their own responsibilities.

## Tobacco and alcohol

Mayhill has a non-smoking policy and smoking on the premises is prohibited.

The bringing of alcohol to the school premises and its consumption are prohibited. However, the school recognises that there are occasions when the school premises are used outside school hours for social occasions when it will be acceptable for alcoholic drinks to be consumed, subject to local bylaws.

This policy will be monitored by the Headteacher and governors.

The Headteacher will report any serious incidents regarding drugs and substance misuse to the governors. This policy should be read in conjunction with all other school policies, in particular Equal Opportunities, and taking account of the Single Equality Scheme