



PUDSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

EST.1905

Drugs Education Policy 2025 - 2027

This policy has been agreed by the Governing Body of
Pudsey Grammar School

Ratified: Full Governing Board

Date approved: 26th March 2025

Date of review: March 2027

Aim

The aim of this policy is to clarify procedure and provision linked to effective drugs education at Pudsey Grammar School.

Rationale

The increasing availability of both legal and illegal substances locally and nationally poses significant risks for drug misuse. Pudsey Grammar School does not tolerate the misuse of drugs or alcohol by its members, nor the illegal supply of these substances.

As a school, we play a vital role in shaping the choices and lifestyles of our students. We are deeply committed to their health, safety, and wellbeing and will take proactive measures to safeguard them.

With young people often exposed to conflicting or inaccurate information about drugs through the media, peers, and other sources, their understanding of risks can be skewed, influencing poor decision-making. Recognising this, the school provides accurate education and fostering a supportive environment. We encourage any student in need to seek help, knowing they will be met with care and understanding.

Curriculum Integration

- The curriculum at Pudsey Grammar School aims to provide opportunities for all of its students to learn and achieve. As part of this, the school curriculum aims to promote students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. Effective drugs education and incident management contributes to the overall ethos of the school. Drugs Education is embedded in our PSHE programme and all students take part in drugs education in years 7-13.
- It will also be integrated across other relevant subject areas, such as Religious Education, Science, and Citizenship, where it intersects with broader social and moral issues, including homelessness, unemployment, and societal pressures.
- Drugs education at Pudsey Grammar School aims to help its students:
 - To develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle
 - Make informed decisions, learn how to plan and manage choices
 - Know how to keep safe
 - Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility
 - Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others
 - Maintain and develop relationships
 - Develop self-confidence
 - Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations
 - Develop the motivation to succeed
 - Recognise risk and associated consequences
 - Know basic emergency aid procedures
 - Seek help if appropriate

- The school will work closely with local agencies, including the police, youth services, and health professionals, to ensure that drug education is up-to-date, evidence-based, and relevant to the community.
- All staff, parents/guardians, and governors will be informed of the school's planned drug education initiatives.
- Parents/guardians will have opportunities to engage with and understand the program, fostering a partnership approach to student wellbeing.

This policy ensures that drug education is holistic, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of students, helping them navigate challenges in a supportive environment

Drug Education Curriculum Provision

The school delivers a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education program, of which drugs education is a key component. There is also use of assemblies, workshops, and guest speakers, including local police and health professionals, to complement classroom-based learning.

The specific curriculum provision for drugs education includes:

Key Stage:	Focus:	Delivered through:
Key Stage 3	<p>Introduction to the types of drugs, including legal, illegal, and prescription drugs.</p> <p>Exploration of the short-term and long-term effects of substance use on physical and mental health.</p> <p>Discussion of peer pressure and strategies for resisting it.</p> <p>Awareness of the role of the media and social influences in shaping attitudes toward drugs.</p>	PSHE
Key Stage 4	<p>Detailed information on the risks and consequences of drug use, including social, legal, and health-related impacts.</p> <p>Development of decision-making and critical thinking skills to handle challenging situations.</p> <p>Understanding the link between drug use and broader social issues, such as crime, unemployment, and family breakdown.</p> <p>Introduction to support services and how to seek help for oneself or others.</p>	<p>PSHE</p> <p>Science</p> <p>RS</p>

Key Stage 5	Examination of the relationship between drugs, mental health, and wellbeing. Guidance on managing stress and other risk factors without reliance on substances. Advanced skills in supporting peers and fostering a drug-free culture within the school and beyond. Focus on the impact of substance misuse in adulthood, including workplace implications and legal responsibilities.	PSHE
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Confidentiality

Staff must clearly outline confidentiality limits to students before discussions, ensuring they understand when information may need to be shared.

Any information must be passed discreetly and purposefully to a member of the safeguarding team.

To protect students' privacy, staff must actively prevent the spread of rumours within the school community.

Records of suspected drug-related incidents must be handled confidentially and shared only with safeguarding staff.

Legal Context

While schools are not legally required to report drug-related incidents to the police, the school has a moral duty to respond appropriately.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer will decide on police involvement based on:

- The severity of the incident.
- The potential impact on the student and the wider school community.

Response to Drug-Related Incidents

Pudsey Grammar School has designated staff responsible for managing drug-related incidents. These include the Assistant Headteacher (Director of Safeguarding) and other members of the pastoral or leadership team.

When a drug-related incident occurs, the following steps will be taken:

Removal and Safety

- a. The student will be immediately removed from the situation and taken to a designated safe room.
- b. Two staff members will always be present with the student to ensure safeguarding.

Initial Assessment

- c. The student will be questioned, spoken to, and searched if deemed necessary in line with school policy.
- d. Any substances or paraphernalia will be confiscated and stored securely.

Health and Wellbeing

- e. The students will be sent to the medical room to assess their physical and mental state.

Parental and Police Involvement

- f. Parents or carers will be informed of the situation as appropriate.
- g. The school may involve the Police, depending on the nature and seriousness of the incident.

Investigation and Documentation

- h. A full investigation, including staff statements, will be conducted to establish the facts.
- i. The incident will be recorded on the school's safeguarding system (CPOMS).

Sanctions and Support

- j. The school will apply an appropriate sanction, which will be communicated to parents.
- k. The student will be offered pastoral support within the school and may be referred to external agencies for additional help if necessary.

Staff Guidelines

Staff must be familiar with procedures for managing drug-related incidents, including during off-site and residential visits.