

DRUGS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION POLICY

Channing is committed to ensuring that it is a healthy school, free from the misuse of drugs and other substances.

The aim of the Drugs Education programme is to inform pupils about drugs and their effects and to promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles. It aims to increase pupils' understanding of the health and social implications of the use and misuse of drugs and to inform pupils about courses of action open to them if they (or people they know) become, or might become, involved in drugs activity. It also informs pupils about support and resources available both in and outside school.

We are committed to making Drugs Education up to date, well informed and relevant by working with outside agencies and inviting speakers to Channing to share their knowledge and experiences.

We believe that it is important to make pupils aware of the dangers and health implications of taking both legal and illegal drugs.

Alcohol is the main focus of Drugs Education in Year 8 with lessons about the risks associated with binge drinking and alcohol poisoning. The topic is re-visited again in Year 10, this time focusing on alcoholism and the long-term health implications of drinking more than recommended on a regular basis.

Channing is a smoke free site and its anti-smoking message is reinforced in Year 7 PSHE lessons which inform pupils about the dangers and health implications of smoking tobacco and cannabis.

The dangers of taking illegal 'party' drugs are exposed in PSHE lessons in Year 9 with a series of true-life stories and hard-hitting lectures. Harder drugs are dealt with in Year 10, often backed up with talks given by recovering addicts.

The detailed programme of study is co-ordinated by the Head of PSHE in consultation with the Deputy Head and relevant staff.

P Gittins

20. Apr. 2010