

## **DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY**

### **THE ETHOS OF IQRA ACADEMY**

IQRA means 'Read '

**I**mprovement

**Q**uality

**R**espect

**A**chievement

### **Policy Statement**

At Iqra Academy we believe that children and adults are entitled to learn and develop in a safe and caring environment. As we are all very much aware, safety is an issue in our modern society.

With an emphasis on educating our children to be responsible citizens, we hope to equip children with the knowledge, skills and understanding so that they grow up to lead confident, healthy and independent lives. As members of a variety of communities, we encourage children to become informed, active and responsible citizens.

In creating a safe environment, the governors and staff do not condone the misuse or supply of legal substances such as alcohol, as well as illicit substances, and will take seriously any attempt to do so.

Drugs education is delivered as part of the PHSCE curriculum throughout the academy and encompasses the whole academy ethos.

### **Key Responsibilities**

#### **The Governing Body must:**

- Ratify the Drugs Education Policy
- Nominate a governor who will work with the Principal on the policy and report back to the appropriate Governing Body committee
- The named Governor must keep themselves up to date with local health related issues including drug awareness

#### **The Role Of Principal**

- To be responsible for the successful implementation of the policy across the academy as a whole
- Provide training and resources for staff and for the induction of new staff through formal INSET sessions as well as being available in an advisory capacity on a day-to-day basis
- Ensure that procedures for managing suspected related issues are followed.
- Keep information for staff and parents on substance related issues up to date.
- Be the contact person for issues related to drug or substance misuse.

**Senior Leadership Team must:**

- Give practical support to the implementation of drugs education policy at the academy
- Provide INSET opportunities and facilitate the production of resources for teachers and support staff as appropriate.

**Class Teachers must:**

- Enable children to have the confidence to make their own decisions
- Provide children with the appropriate knowledge about the choices they make
- Work with parents and other outside agencies for the benefit of the children
- Enable children to recognise and understand the dangers of unsafe situations
- Enable children to develop the skills to help them resist unsafe situations and seek help
- Observe appropriate confidentiality

**The First Aiders will be expected to:**

- Keep informed about drug and substance abuse and appropriate actions to take
- Observe appropriate confidentiality

**The Site Staff will be expected to:**

- Keep the school site free of dangerous objects and substances, ie 'sharps' and dispose of them safely
- Be the contact person if anyone finds dangerous objects or substances on school premises
- Observe appropriate confidentiality

**The Lunchtime supervisors will be expected to:**

- Implement the health and safety procedures related to drug incidents
- Keep the Principal informed of any concerns
- Observe appropriate confidentiality

**Parental/Carer Involvement:**

We recognise the strength of staff, pupils and parents/carers all working together. Clearly signposted parental/carers support is significantly important in the raising of awareness of substance abuse. With this in mind:

- Parents/carers will be encouraged to support their son/daughters to report instances of substance abuse
- Observe appropriate confidentiality

**The Role of The Pupil:**

All pupils have responsibility for their own. Pupils should therefore:

- Participate fully in timetabled specific events
- Report instances of substance abuse
- Observe appropriate confidentiality

Through the spiral curriculum model used at Iqra, we can ensure age appropriate coverage of the curriculum. This allows children to meet themes in more and more details as they mature physically and emotionally. This is of particular importance when dealing with a sensitive issue such as drug education.

Drugs education is taught during time tabled PHSCE lessons.

A variety of strategies are used in the classroom including:

- Circle time.
- Distancing techniques (e.g. role play)
- Visitors from the local community, including health professional, community police officers

Another important feature of this particular curriculum aspect are the various issues e.g. right and wrong, rights and responsibilities and rules and laws which influence our PHSCE curriculum.

Drugs education is important in modern society and children bring to the academy a variety of knowledge and different levels of understanding regarding drugs. This underpins our teaching.

The spiral curriculum, as stated, allows children to develop knowledge and understanding in age appropriate ways.

In the Foundation Stage, children consider the importance of their own bodies.

In KS1 children discuss topics that encompass the safety of household products/medicines; the dangers of needles; and how to get help if they need it.

In lower KS2, children begin to learn that all drugs can be harmful if misused and they also begin to learn about the effects of alcohol and tobacco.

In upper KS2, children begin to discuss their attitudes and beliefs about illegal drugs; the effects these drugs can have and, most importantly in our city, how to cope with peer pressure. This is of particular relevance as the children will soon be moving on to secondary schools.

We believe that through this systematic approach, we can educate children to be responsible citizens.

### **Declaration of Responsibility**

This Drugs Education Policy was reviewed and formally adopted by Iqra Academy on

..... Date

..... Signed Named Governor

..... Signed Principal