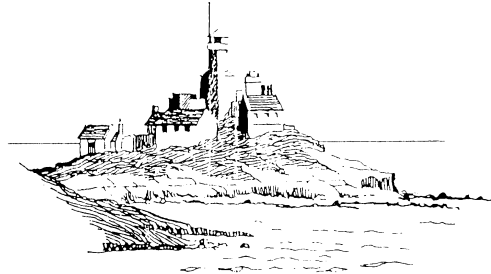


**YSGOL GYNRADD YSTUMLLWYNARTH
OYSTERMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Achievement Through Challenge/Cyflawni Trwy Herio



**Drug and Substance Abuse Policy
2016 - 2018**

Date of Review:	November 2014	Signature: _____
Date of Review:	November 2016	Signature: _____
Date of Review:	November 2018	Signature: _____

Introduction

This policy has been developed with the involvement of teaching staff, Governors and the School Council. It draws on the most recent guidance from the DFES booklet Drugs: Guidance for Schools (issued February 2004) and the current Government Drug Strategy 2010 Reducing Demand, Restricting Supply, Building Recovery.

A copy of the policy has been circulated to all teaching staff at the school. The policy has been adopted on 10 January 2012 and will be reviewed every two years, or as required with any changes in legislation or DFES guidance. The policy and drugs education will be reviewed through the curriculum SEN committee.

The policy connects with the school policies for personal development. The purpose of the policy is to set out how the school will educate staff and pupils of the negative effects that drugs can have on peoples' lives, to support pupils when appropriate and to deal with any issues of drugs possession within the school.

The School's Stance Towards Drugs

Oystermouth Primary School condones neither the use of illegal substances, alcohol or tobacco nor the misuse of glue, solvents, prescribed and over the counter medicines.

Oystermouth Primary School acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of pupils, and through the general ethos of the school, will seek to encourage pupils to make informed decisions in order to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Definitions

Drugs

In this policy the term drug is used to include:

1. Illegal substances
 2. Substances which are legal but can be misused
- Some of these substances would not be acceptable for possession and use by students on and off school premises, e.g. alcohol and tobacco.

- Other substances, for example, glue, and solvents, would be acceptable for possession and use on school premises, provided this is for their proper, intended purpose.
- Parents will fill in a form for administering over the counter medicines. These medicines will be kept in the office or staff room.

In school

'In school' is taken to mean on school premises, including buildings and grounds. This can extend beyond the school gates when a pupil is wearing school uniform. The school policy also applies to off-site activities, visits and school trips. The policy relates to students' use of the premises and grounds beyond the school day. The policy also covers use of the school's facilities and grounds by the community, including students, out of school hours.

The policy also relates to possession of illegal drugs by parents/carers and any visitors to the school.

Drugs Education

Education about drugs is an integral part of the Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme in school.

The programme aims:

- To encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance use.
- To widen understanding about related health and social issues, eg sex and sexuality and crime.
- To enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

Emphasis is placed on developing interpersonal skills in order to equip young people to deal with challenging situations throughout life.

The teaching of drug education will be monitored by the PSHE coordinator.

Oystermouth Primary School will give staff support and training when needed.

Management of Drugs in School (including police involvement)

- If a student is found in possession of drugs, alcohol etc. at school the parents will always be informed.
- If a student is found in possession of a substance suspected of being illegal the school will inform the police.
- A member of staff, directed by the head teacher, may search a school bag, or other school property where (s)he has reasonable cause to believe it contains unlawful items, including illegal drugs. There should be a witness present and a receipt given for any item removed.
- Where students are suspected of concealing drugs, alcohol, etc. they will be encouraged to produce these voluntarily. If a student refuses, the police will be called in to deal with the situation.
- Any suspected illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco can be lawfully seized by staff and retained in locked storage pending the arrival of the police. Staff seizing suspected drugs should avoid any skin contact with the drugs if possible, and preserve any relevant packaging.
- Any parent/carer suspected to be under the influence of drugs may be asked to leave the school premises. The head teacher may inform social services.
- Any member of staff found in the possession of suspected illegal drugs will be dealt with through this policy and any relevant internal discipline policy, and national policy relating to professional standards. This will be dealt with by the head teacher.

Sanctions and Support

Individual incidents will be dealt with according to the circumstances involved. Sanctions will be designed to ensure the student's continued education and support for his/her well being. Students will be offered appropriate counselling and support as available within the school and parents may be offered contacts with agencies who can offer support.

The school child protection procedures may be invoked if there is significant concern for a child's safety.

When all other reasonable steps have been taken, or depending on the gravity of the situation, it may prove necessary to exclude the child from school, and in extreme cases to make a permanent exclusion as the final sanction.

Any person selling/supplying illegal substances or alcohol and tobacco will be excluded from school. The school will support the police in any resulting prosecution.