



Kingskerswell Church of England Primary School

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Wednesday 19th October

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our school aims and values underpin the way in which we deliver a whole school approach to teaching Drug and Alcohol Education, a mandatory part of the National Curriculum which we deliver as part of our Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) for all our pupils.

We believe that all pupils have an entitlement to learn about drugs and alcohol as part of the wider PSHE provision. We aim to meet the needs of all our pupils and respond to the range of cultures and family diversity. Our aim is to provide an effective programme which aims for all pupils to understand and clarify misconceptions about the effects and risks of drugs; understand the rules and laws relating to drugs; know the impact of drugs on individuals and families; understand the complex moral, social and emotional issues surrounding drugs.

We have certain ground rules to ensure the safety of the learning environment for drugs and alcohol education. These are:

- No one is forced to answer a question or participate in discussion.
- Meanings of words will be explained in a factual way.
- Teachers will deal sensitively with what children say, however they cannot offer pupils complete confidentiality, for child protection reasons.
- Teachers who know their pupils well are ideally placed to provide sensitive alcohol and drug education, therefore supply teachers **will not** deliver lessons.

Parents have a key role to play in drugs and alcohol education, in partnership with the school. In particular, they are important in:

- Maintaining the ethos and culture of the family
- Enabling children to explore their own and other peoples' attitudes towards drugs and drug users, including: challenging stereotypes, exploring media and social influences.
- Preparing children for the challenges of resisting pressures as they mature

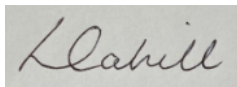
Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you **HOPE** and a **FUTURE**.

Some parents find this a difficult subject to talk about with children, which is where school drug and alcohol education can help by providing a more 'distanced' or neutral approach, which can be followed up by closer discussion at home. Many children will want to come home and ask questions after the sessions in school. This is where you can most support them and reinforce their understanding.

This year we are, again, using the CWP Drug and Alcohol Education resources that we have used in previous years, these provide a range of activities, videos and discussion opportunities. We hope that you won't, but parents do have the right to withdraw children from drug and alcohol education. An overview of the teaching programme for your child's year group is included with this letter. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact your child's class teacher who can discuss the content in more detail. This year our teaching sessions will be taking place in the week beginning 31st October.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'L Cahill', on a light grey rectangular background.

Lyndsey Cahill

PSHE and Thrive Lead

Jeremiah 29:11

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