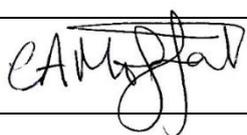
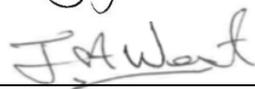

Drugs Education Policy

DOCUMENT DETAILS	
Category:	Educational Policy
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Signed:	Headteacher 
	Chair of Governors 

1. Principles

Young people are growing up in an increasingly drug using world. During their early childhood they are exposed to messages about drug use from the media, their peers, their families and wider society. This policy seeks to ensure that young people in our schools receive an education which enables them to grow up confidently, knowledgeably, competently and safely in a drug using world. It also aims to ensure that students receive consistent messages about living a healthy lifestyle and the inappropriateness of drug misuse.

2. Delivery

- All students will receive regular guidance on drugs and alcohol as part of the PSHE curriculum.
- Drugs and alcohol will feature regularly as part of the pastoral education in the form of classes and assemblies.
- Lessons will be delivered as appropriate to the age and phase of the pupils and will be differentiated according to individual learning styles.
- Where appropriate, visitors and external speakers will join us to lead classes on drug and alcohol misuse.

We recognise that many of the aspects of the curriculum contribute towards enabling young people not only to know how to stay safe from substance misuse, but also to have the high self-esteem and interpersonal skills that enable them to stay safe and in control. Paxman Academy is committed to working towards the principles of the health promoting school, and the National Healthy School Standard, both to raise achievement and to support those young people living with the risk factors that increase their vulnerability to future drug misuse.

The school recognises its responsibility to offer a balanced education to all students in relation to all forms of drug use, they also recognise the role of parents in these matters. The schools are clear that the bringing in or use of drugs on school premises, or school related activities, is unacceptable and will be a disciplinary matter. For further information, please consult the behaviour policy.

3. Definitions

A drug is defined as being 'A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave'. (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime). All types of drugs will be referred to during Drugs Education, these include:

- Illegal drugs (Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- All legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and volatile substances
- Prescribed medicines
- Over-the-counter medicines

4. Aims of Drugs Education

The following content outlines the learning outcomes we will deliver to meet the needs of our students.

Increase students' knowledge and understanding and clarify misconceptions about:

- The short and long term effects and risks of drugs
- The rules and laws relating to drugs
- The impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities
- The prevalence and acceptability of drug use among peers
- The complex moral, social, emotional and political issues surrounding drugs

Develop students' personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy, including:

- Assessing, avoiding and managing risk
- Communicating effectively
- Resisting pressures

- Finding information, help and advice
- Developing self-awareness and self-esteem

Enable students to explore their own and other people's attitudes towards drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereo types, exploring media and social influences.