

Substance Misuse Policy . Ballinure National School.

Introduction.

This Policy was drawn up by the teachers of Ballinure School in consultation with the Parent Body and Board of Management.

Aims.

- To ensure the care and welfare of every member of the school community in line with the Ed.Act 1998.
- To develop a sense of Personal responsibility, an awareness of Healthy living and to encourage participation in health initiatives.
- To develop an awareness of the relationship between choice and consequences.
- To develop an awareness of critical thinking with regard to choices we make which effect our lifestyle.

Content.

Substance use Education comes under the S.P.H.E Programme which is timetabled into our curriculum. All education in relation to Substance Use will be taught in relation to the ethos of the school and within a positive, caring environment .

Resources. /Methodologies

- Walk Tall Programme
- Stay Safe programme
- Health Board initiatives.
- Guest speakers/Local Garda
- Talk/discussion
- Food Dudes.
- Super Troopers

Definition of a drug.

It is our understanding that a drug is any chemical which alters how the body works. This includes tobacco, alcohol, over the counter drugs, prescription drugs ,illegal drugs.

Staff Training and Development..

As a staff we have a shared knowledge of the contribution the the S.P.H.E programme can make to the prevention of substance misuse. We believe that by creating a positive atmosphere within our school and classrooms and by promoting discussion around substance misuse that we are playing an important role in the prevention of substance misuse. Staff are informed re. any courses ,in service days in relation to substance use and accommodated re. attendance at such courses.

Signs/symptoms.

These may include
Drowsiness.

Mood swings
Uncharacteristic aggression
Unusual smells around the child
Secretive behaviour
Stealing
Gradual loss of interest in school, friends, hobbies

Reviewed .- Dec. 2017.,March 2019

Signed on behalf of Ballinure N.S Margaret Gleeson, Tom Butler