

# **Hulme Hall Garmmar School**

## **Drugs Policy**

### **Introduction**

All drugs, whether legal or illegal, have the potential to harm; but some drugs are more harmful than others. For a small number of people, drugs lead to serious and far reaching consequences not only for themselves, but their families, their communities and society in general. For children and young people in particular, drugs can impact upon their education, their relationships with family and friends and prevent them from reaching their full potential.

Children and young people need to be able to make safe, healthy and responsible decisions about drugs, both legal and illegal. Schools play a central role in helping them to make such decisions by providing education about the risks and effects of drugs; by developing their confidence and skills to manage situations involving drugs; by creating a safe and supportive learning environment; and ensuring that those for whom drugs are a concern receive appropriate support.

In the 1980's, surveys showed that around 10% of school age children may have tried illegal drugs or solvents at least once. In 2004, the Department of Health surveyed 10,000 school children. The survey revealed that 42% said that they had been offered drugs and cannabis was the most common. Results also showed that 21% indicated that they had taken drugs in the previous year. As regards the frequency of drug taking, 1% reported that they did so on most days of the week, 2% at least once per week and 3% once or twice per month.

The majority of young people of school-age have never used an illegal drug. Most will at some stage, be occasional users of prescription drugs for medicinal purposes and many will try alcohol or tobacco, some on a regular basis. There are complex motivations behind a young person's decision to first experiment with alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances and illegal drugs. However, very few of those who experiment with illegal drugs will go on to become problem drug users. All pupils, including those in primary schools, are likely to be exposed to the effects and influences of drugs in the wider community and be increasingly exposed to opportunities to try both legal and illegal drugs. Every school therefore, has a responsibility to consider its response to the issue of drugs.

### **The context of the policy & its relationship to other policies.**

The school's approach to drugs will be effective if;

- the issue is addressed by the whole school community – staff, parents, pupils and governors.
- it is consistent with the school's values and ethos.
- drug education is part of a well-planned programme delivered in a supportive environment, where pupils feel able to engage in open discussion and feel confident about asking for help if necessary.
- policy and practice for managing incidents are consistent with teaching.
- it is supported by consistent messages from the family.

Drugs education is an entitlement for every pupil and is supported by section 351, of the Education Act 1996 which requires every school to provide a balanced curriculum which:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of the pupils.
- prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Drug education is an essential element, delivered through the CPSHE programme in Key Stages 1 – 4. For example, skills to resist pressure to use drugs are applicable to personal safety and relationship education. Links between drugs and issues such as emotional health and well being and sex and relationship education, are also clear. For details of content, refer to the Health Education Policy.

Drug education is also a statutory requirement within the National Curriculum Science Order. See Health Education Policy & Science SOW's for details. The Drug Education Policy makes a clear distinction between the aspects covered by Science and CPSHE.

Through its ethos, Hulme Hall is committed to the policy that Every Child Matters and through its teaching, seeks to promote the benefits of following a healthy and safe lifestyle. There are clear links therefore, with school policies relating to Health Education (including SRE and Drugs Education), Health & Safety, School Trips, First Aid and Healthy Eating.

In managing a drugs related incident, there are obvious links to the policies relating to Behaviour & Discipline and possibly, Exclusion. Such an investigation may uncover issues that require action under the terms of the school's Child Protection Policy. It is apparent therefore, that several distinct policies overlap in terms of their contribution to the school's overall approach to the issue of drugs. It is the school's duty to ensure that each delivers a consistent message to pupils and staff.

### **Local and national guidance**

In drawing this policy, reference has been made to the following;

- Drugs: Guidance for schools. DfES/0092/2004.
- Every Child Matters.
- National Healthy Schools Standard. DfEE 2001.
- Education Act 1996, section 351.

### **Where and to whom the policy applies**

The policy applies to;

- pupils.
- all staff ie, teaching, support, administration, maintenance, catering, cleaning, coaches. It will also apply to visiting contractors and partner agencies ie, Connexions, working with the school.
- parents or guardians.
- governors.

The policy's provisions will exercise jurisdiction within the school's boundaries. For the purpose of clarification, the boundaries of the school will be defined as;

- the buildings and grounds of the Hulme Hall Road site.
- the buildings, playing fields and coaches depot of the Buttersfield site.
- the school bus service or other modes of public transport where the pupils are wearing school uniform on the journey to or from school.
- all school visits, sports fixtures and extra curricular events.
- work experience and other journeys during school time.

## Definitions and terminology

The definition of a drug given by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is;

*‘A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave’.*

The term ‘drugs’ and ‘drug education’, unless otherwise stated, is used throughout this document to refer to all drugs, namely;

- all illegal drugs – those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. (see Appendix).
- all legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, ketamine, khat and alkyl nitrites (poppers). See Appendix for further details.
- all over-the-counter and prescription medicines.

## The school’s stance toward drugs, health and the needs of pupils

The school’s stance toward drugs is summarised by the following statement;

*‘The possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs within school boundaries is totally unacceptable and will be regarded as a very serious disciplinary issue’.*

- The Headmaster recognises that some pupils who suffer from particular medical conditions ie, Diabetes, ADHD etc, require daily medication. Other pupils may occasionally require antibiotics, anti-allergens, inhalers or painkillers. Such medicines are authorised for use under the terms and conditions set out in the school’s First Aid Policy. In this respect, it is the duty of the Appointed Person to;
  - 1/ discuss the medication with the parent to clarify dosage and times of administration.
  - 2/ ensure that the medication is labelled and kept in a secure place in Sick Bay.
  - 3 keep a written record of when the medicine was administered.
  - 4/ ensure that others ie, other first aiders, HoY or teachers are informed of medication.
  - 5/ staff **must not** issue medication to pupils. Medication can only be administered by the pupil under the supervision of the AP in the Sick Bay.
  - 6/ parents must not contravene these procedures by issuing medication to their child for use in school without the knowledge of the AP.
  - 7/ the unauthorised possession, use or supply of prescription or over-the-counter medicines is regarded as a serious offence.
- Alcohol is not authorised in school, other than for certain parent, staff events ie, Christmas Celebration, Annual Governor/Staff Buffet. The alcohol for such events is kept in a secure, locked area within the kitchen. It is an offence under the Licensing Act 1964 to sell alcohol without a licence. In order to sell alcohol at a school based event, the school would need to apply for an occasional licence under the terms of the Licensing Act (Occasional Permissions) 1983.
- The school’s first concern in managing drugs within its boundary of jurisdiction, is to protect the health and safety of the school community and meeting the pastoral needs of all pupils. As a school however, we are mindful that certain groups may be more vulnerable to drug misuse and other social problems. (See Appendix for further information).

## **Staff with key responsibility for drugs**

**Headmaster** – responsible for leading policy development and investigation of drug related incidents. The Headmaster will be responsible for administering any disciplinary sanctions, including FTE's and liaise with, or make recommendations for PE, to the governors. The Headmaster will authorise action such as searching lockers and property and informing police.

**Assistant Head (Pastoral)** – responsible for taking a lead role, alongside the Headmaster, during the investigation of a suspected drugs-related incident. To co-ordinate communication with HoY's. To liaise with external agencies as required.

**Assistant Head (Curriculum, Teaching & Learning)** – responsible for monitoring the content and quality of teaching of the CPSHE curriculum across the whole school. In this role, the AH(C,T&L) will liaise closely with the CPSHE Co-ordinator and Head of Juniors. The AH(C,T&L) will also assist the Headmaster as required during the investigation of a drug related incident.

**CPSHE Co-ordinator** – responsible for co-ordinating the CPSHE SOW in KS 3 and 4. In conjunction with the AH(P) and AH(C,T&L), he/she will consider the suitability of external speakers to enhance the drugs education programme.

**Head of Juniors** – will take a lead role alongside the Headmaster into any investigation involving suspected misuse of drugs by Junior School pupils. The H of J will also be responsible for liaising with the AH (C,T&L) to ensure that the Health Education programme is implemented as agreed within the Junior School.

## **Drugs Education**

For details see Health Education Policy.

## **Management of drugs at school**

The investigation of incident in which there is a suspected involvement of illegal drugs, is multi-faceted. In addition to routine investigation procedures, it may be necessary to; conduct searches of lockers and personal belongings; take into temporary possession, a substance suspected of being an illegal drug; dispose of drug paraphernalia; contact the police. The following section is designed to offer guidance on these matters.

### **1/ Taking temporary possession of and disposal of suspected illegal drugs.**

*The law permits school staff to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being an illegal drug for the purposes of preventing an offence from being committed in relation to that drug, providing that all reasonable steps are taken to destroy the drug or deliver it to a person lawfully entitled to take custody of it.*

In taking temporary possession and disposing of suspected illegal drugs, schools are advised to;

- ensure that a second adult witness is present throughout.
- seal the sample in a plastic bag, labelled with the date/time of seizure and the name of the adult witness present.

- store it in a secure place ie, school safe, or other lockable container where access is limited to Headmaster and SLT.
- without delay, notify the police, who will collect it and then store or dispose of it in line with locally agreed protocols. *The law does not require the school to divulge the name of the pupil from whom the drugs were taken.* Where a pupil is identified, the police will be required to follow set internal procedures. If formal action is to be taken, a pupil will be required to attend for interview at his/her local police station, accompanied by a responsible adult (usually a parent/guardian).
- record full details of the incident – this would be implicit in the investigation.
- inform parents/guardians, unless there is good reason to believe that this would jeopardise the safety of the pupil. This is also implicit in the investigation process, since a fixed term exclusion at the very least, will be imposed for such an offence within the school boundaries as defined previously.
- pupils must understand that the rules relating to illegal and unauthorised drugs, apply on school visits. Adherence to these rules should be a part of the consent form signed by the parent. Pupils who breach these rules should be returned home. Parents will need to meet the costs of these arrangements. Staff accompanying school trips, should follow the steps above when taking temporary possession of substances. If in the UK, staff should then follow the procedures set by centre. If abroad, schools must be mindful that the laws on drugs and policing arrangements vary widely in other countries and this should be considered in advance, as part of the risk assessment for the visit.

School staff should not attempt to analyse or taste unknown substances. Police can advise on analysis and formal identification, although this will normally only transpire if it will be required as evidence during a subsequent prosecution.

## **2/ Confiscation and disposal of other unauthorised drugs**

School policy advises that a second adult witness must be present when a member of staff interviews a pupil. This is also the case when either illegal or unauthorised drugs are confiscated and disposed.

- **Alcohol and tobacco.** Parents will routinely be informed in all cases where pupils are found to either be in possession of, or consuming, alcohol or tobacco within school boundaries. In such instances, parents will normally be called into school for interview with either the Assistant Head (Pastoral) or Headmaster, during the course of which, the substances in question will be provided as evidence. Following the interview, the unauthorised drugs will be disposed of.
- **Volatile substances.** Volatile substances (glue, solvents, aerosols), pose a great level of danger. In such cases, parents will be informed and called for interview as above. The school will arrange for their safe disposal ie, in bins to which pupils have no access.
- **Medicines.** Disposal of medicines held in school are covered in the First Aid Policy. The AP will contact parents/guardians, who should collect and dispose of unused or date-expired medicines.

## **3/ Disposal of drug paraphernalia.**

- Needles or syringes found on school premises should be placed in a sturdy, secure container (a tin with a lid), **using gloves**. Soft drinks cans or plastic bottles should not be used.
- Used needles and syringes must not be disposed in domestic waste.
- Where the incidence of finding needles and syringes is high, the school should consider purchasing a sharps container, in order to safeguard those pupils and members of the public who

do not appreciate the associated risks. The Local Authority Environmental Health Department will advise on the correct disposal of sharps containers.

#### 4/ Searches

It is almost inevitable, that the school will feel the need to conduct a search, during an investigation into an incident in which drugs are suspected. In such cases, it is advisable to seek consent, although this isn't always necessary and **a second adult witness should always be present**. All searches should be conducted in such a way as to minimise embarrassment or distress. Parents should be informed after any search involving pupils, irrespective of outcome.

- **Personal searches.** Where a person is suspected of concealing illegal or unauthorised drugs, every effort should be made to persuade the person to hand them over voluntarily to the investigating member of staff, in the presence of a second adult witness. **It is not appropriate for a member of staff to conduct a personal search, including outer clothing and inside pockets.**

Where an individual suspected to be in possession of an illegal drug, refuses to hand it over to a member of staff, the school will proceed along formal lines and inform the police. The police have the authority to conduct a personal search. In such cases, the person in question, will be given a fixed term exclusion, or suspension (in the case of a member of staff), pending the outcome of the investigation.

The school cannot detain a person without their consent, unless a citizen's arrest is made.

- **Searches of school property.** Staff may search lockers or desks if they believe that drugs may be stored there. **Consent should be sought.** However, if consent is refused, individuals should be made aware that the school is entitled to proceed without it.
- **Searches of personal property.** The school may wish to search personal property stored within school property ie, bags or pencil case stored in a locker. **The school must not search personal property without consent.** Where consent is refused, the school will notify parents who may persuade their child to give consent. Failing this, a pupil will receive a fixed term exclusion; a member of staff will be suspended; pending the outcome of the investigation. The school also reserves the right to inform the police where illegal drugs are suspected.

## Responding to drug incidents

### Definition of a drug incident

Incidents are likely to involve suspicions, observations, disclosures or discoveries of situations involving illegal or unauthorised drugs. The following are examples, but this list is not exhaustive;

- drugs or associated paraphernalia are discovered on school premises.
- a pupil demonstrates through actions or play, an inappropriate level of knowledge of drugs for their age.
- a pupil is found in possession of drugs or associated paraphernalia.
- a pupil is found/suspected to be supplying drugs on school premises.
- a pupil, parent/guardian or staff member is thought to be under the influence of drugs.
- a staff member has information about the sale, supply or cultivation of drugs in the local area.
- a pupil discloses that they or a family member/friend are misusing drugs.

### Medical emergencies

In any case involving suspected drug use, the utmost priority is upon safety, meeting any medical emergency with first aid or summoning medical assistance, before addressing further issues.

### **Establishing the nature of an incident**

The school will conduct a careful, detailed investigation in order to judge the seriousness of an incident. The investigation will be conducted by the Headmaster and designated members of the SLT;

- firstly, separate those pupils who are suspected of immediate involvement, in order to prevent collusion.
- during all interviews, ensure that a second adult witness, usually a member of SLT or HoY, is present. A written record of the main points of discussion should be made. This must also show date, time and names of all present during the interview. Parents must be informed and where possible, will be invited to attend the interview.
- the Headmaster and investigation team, will inform, consult and involve others as the investigation unfolds. Colleagues must be mindful of the need to maintain the highest professional standards in terms of respecting the confidentiality of those involved.

A range of factors may be relevant and need exploring to determine the seriousness of an incident, in order to decide the most appropriate course of action;

- what does the pupil have to say?
- is this a 'one off' situation or a longer term issue?
- is the drug legal or illegal?
- what quantity of drug was involved?
- is the pupil careful and knowledgeable or reckless to their own and other's safety in terms of how the drug was being used?
- what are the pupil's home circumstances?
- does the pupil know and understand the school policy toward drugs?
- where does the incident fall on the scale from 'possession of a small quantity' to 'persistent supply for profit'?
- is there evidence of organised or habitual supply?

### **Disciplinary action**

The response should take into consideration not only the needs of the pupil(s) concerned, but also the best interests of the wider school community. We recognise that drug problems rarely occur in isolation and that in some cases, it may be necessary to adopt a holistic approach rather than focussing solely on the drugs incident. Where possible and where this also serves the best interests of the wider school community, a pupil should be given the opportunity to learn from their mistakes.

### **Fixed-Term Exclusion**

- Following interview, all pupils who are the subject of a suspected drugs-related investigation, will be given an indeterminate FTE, pending the outcome of the investigation. Whilst it is not possible to state how long such an investigation will take, we would certainly not envisage a period of longer than 2 weeks. During this time, it is the duty of the school to minimise disruption to the child's education, by providing a regular supply of work.
- For 'one off' incidents such as possession of a small amount of cannabis or implication for example, agreeing to 'mind' substances to protect a guilty party, a lengthy FTE should be sufficient punishment. The pupil will be interviewed by the Headmaster in the presence of their parents/guardians before returning to classes. They will be offered sound advice regarding future

expectations and support where this is deemed necessary. It is hoped that such pupils will have learnt from their previous mistakes. **Such pupils will receive a final warning.**

- Smoking or possession of alcohol will incur a FTE of 1 day. Parents will be required to attend for interview with the Headmaster or Assistant Head (Pastoral), before returning to school.
- Pupils who are found to be intoxicated within school boundaries, will receive an FTE of 1 week and a **final warning**.

### **Permanent Exclusion**

PE is the final step in the process for dealing with disciplinary offences, after a wide range of other strategies have been tried without success. A pupil's previous school record will also be taken into account when reaching this decision. The following examples are not exhaustive;

- supplying an illegal drug is a serious breach of school rules and is one of the exceptional circumstances where the Headmaster would apply a PE for a first offence. The school regards this as a very serious potential threat to the health of the wider school community.
- using an illegal drug ie, smoking cannabis, within the definition of the school's boundaries.
- a second offence in which a pupil is found to be in possession of an illegal drug within the school's boundaries.
- repeated instances of smoking cigarettes, drinking alcohol within school boundaries.

### **Referral to other agencies**

The school may consider referral to other services where children are thought to be suffering or at risk of suffering significant harm. In some cases, this may be a stated condition of the child's reinstatement in the school. Parents/guardians must be involved in the decision making process, unless this is felt to compromise the safety of the pupil. The following examples may apply;

- invoke child protection procedures where the investigation reveals that a pupil may be at risk.
- refer to Connexions advisor who may be able to co-ordinate the help of specialist agencies ie, drugs, alcohol, smoking, solvent abuse issues.
- counselling, where this is deemed valuable to the pupil.
- CAMHS where it is felt that the child has a psychological problem or where a diagnosed condition is making a child more vulnerable to drugs and other risky behaviours.

### **Involving the police**

- The police will not normally be involved in incidents related to legal drugs. However, the school may decide to inform trading standards or police about the inappropriate sale or supply of tobacco, alcohol or volatile substances to pupils in the local area.
- The school has **no legal obligation to report an incident involving drugs to the police.** However, the school must be satisfied that in not doing so, it has not acted against the best interests of the school and wider community.
- The police should be involved in the disposal of illegal drugs.
- The school can request advice from the police (contact for liaison is.....) on a particular incident, but there is **no legal obligation to divulge the name of any pupil under investigation or from whom drugs have been confiscated.**
- Where there is clear evidence that a pupil has been supplying drugs and in cases where the incident involves Class A or B drugs, the police should be informed and the pupil's name divulged.

- If the school has decided to involve the police, it should cease all further investigations/interviews. The police may require copies of interviews and witness statements. Any physical evidence ie, confiscated drugs and paraphernalia, should be handed to police in sealed plastic bags as described previously.

### **Parents/Guardians under the influence of drugs on school premises.**

- Staff should attempt to maintain a calm atmosphere.
- In such instances, the teacher may have concerns about releasing the child into the care of the parent/guardian. The school should endeavour, with the parent/guardian's consent, to make alternative arrangements for transporting the child safely home ie, grandparent or family friend, perhaps another parent. The focus must be upon maintaining the child's welfare as opposed to moderating the parent's behaviour.
- In cases where the parent becomes abusive or physically aggressive, staff should contact the police. In such cases, the school would also invoke its child protection procedures.

### **Staff conduct and drugs.**

Members of staff have a duty of care to pupils entrusted to the school, including when on school trips and journeys to and from school. A member of staff may be deemed unfit for work if he or she poses a risk or potential risk to the health and safety of pupils or colleagues.

Please note that:

- **Hulme Hall is a smoke free zone.** Members of staff must not smoke cigarettes on school premises. We expect staff to set a 'good example' to pupils at all times, therefore we do not expect them to smoke whilst on school trips.
- staff must not consume alcohol during school hours.
- staff must not take illegal drugs during school hours.
- members of staff who are under the influence of drugs, alcohol or solvents, will be deemed unfit for work under the terms of their contract of employment. Disciplinary action, as outlined in the staff contract, will be commenced.

### **Role of governors**

- As a part of their general responsibilities for the strategic development of the school, governors may wish to contribute to the development of the school's drugs policy.
- The Chair of Governors will be kept informed of any drugs issues as they affect the school ie, to be updated at various stages in an investigation.
- A designated governor, especially one with professional experience in that field, may be called to contribute to a case conference concerning a particular issue/pupil.
- The Headmaster would contact the governors in cases where a PE was being recommended.
- A panel of governors would sit to hear appeals against exclusion (or suspension in the case of a member of staff).

## APPENDIX 1

### Summary of relevant laws

#### 1/ Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (amended January 2004). Relating to controlled drugs.

	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class C</b>
<b>Principal drugs included</b>	Opium Heroin/methadone Cocaine/Crack cocaine LSD Ecstasy Processed magic mushrooms Class B drugs for injection	Amphetamines Barbiturates Codeine Ritalin	Cannabis resin Cannabis herb Anabolic steroids Temazepam GHB Some stimulant, anti-depressant and anti-obesity medicines.
<b>Maximum penalty for possession</b>	7 years and/or fine	5 years and/or fine	2 years and/or fine
<b>Maximum penalty for trafficking, supply or production</b>	Life imprisonment and a fine	14 year and/or a fine	14 years and/or fine

#### 2/ Offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act

- **Possession** – where a person knowingly has custody or control of a controlled drug.
- **Possession with intent to supply** – where a person knowingly has custody or control of a controlled drug and intends to supply to others for payment or not. This includes packaging drugs and where a person is ‘looking after’ drugs and returns them (or intends to) to another person. They can be charges with supply or intent to supply.
- **Supplying another person with a controlled drug** – giving or selling drugs to someone else, including friends. The law doesn’t differentiate between supplying or giving to friends and supplying for profit.
- **Supplying drug paraphernalia** – syringes, needles etc, should only be supplied by an authorised agency to enable use of a controlled drug with the exception of matches and a tourniquet.
- **Production, cultivation or manufacture of controlled drugs** – ie, growing cannabis plants.
- **Use of premises** – allowing premises you occupy or manage to be used for the production, supply or cultivation of controlled drugs. Also, to allow premises to be used for the smoking of cannabis or opium and the preparation of opium.

**It is not illegal to be in possession of a controlled drug if it is found, given or confiscated and it is not for that person’s own use but to prevent a crime from being committed. They should hold it for as little time as possible.**

#### 3/ The Medicines Act 1968

- **Prescription only medicines** – can only be supplied by a registered pharmacy under the supervision of a pharmacist in receipt of a prescription from a registered practitioner (doctor, dentist, independent nurse prescriber etc).
- **Pharmacy medicines (‘over the counter medicines’)** – can be sold without a prescription, but only by a pharmacist.

- **General sales medicines** – can be sold without a prescription by any shop.

Possession of some prescription only medicines such as Ritalin and temazepam, is illegal under the Misuse of Drugs Act, if no prescription is held.

#### **4/ Tobacco Laws**

It is an offence to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of 16. The offence currently carries a fine of £2500. Police are permitted to confiscate tobacco products from under-16's who are found smoking in a public place.

#### **5/ Alcohol Laws.**

- It is an offence to give alcohol to any child under 5 years, except in a medical emergency.
- Over 5's can consume alcohol in a private environment.
- Police can confiscate alcohol from under 18's who are drinking in a public place.
- It is at the discretion of the licence holder that children of any age are permitted to enter the premises. Only children over 14 years are allowed to enter the bar area, accompanied or not.
- It is illegal for bar staff to knowingly sell alcohol to under 18's or allow them to consume alcohol on the premises.
- It is illegal for an adult to purchase alcohol for a person under 18. An exception is that people aged 16 or 17 accompanied by an adult, may consume beer, porter and cider with a meal on licensed premises.

#### **6/ Volatile substances**

- In England & Wales, it is an offence to sell solvent products to under 18's if the retailer suspects that the substances will be misused.
- Butane product sales, such as lighter refills are further restricted. Regulations make it illegal for these to be sold to under 18's under any circumstances. The penalty is up to 6 month's imprisonment or a £5000 fine.

#### **7/ Responsibility for children**

School staff have a legal duty of care towards pupils in their care. In case law, staff are expected to act in the manner of a 'careful parent'. If a member of staff cause injury or loss to a pupil by failing to carry out his/her responsibilities in a reasonable and careful way, that staff member could be held in negligence. The duty of care is defined as a duty to exercise adequate supervision, which is dependant upon age, maturity, needs and circumstances. Supervision could mean giving appropriate advice rather than direct supervision, although school trips do require greater levels of adult supervision.

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **Vulnerable Groups**

Schools must be aware that some pupils are more vulnerable to drug misuse and other social problems. The table below indicates the vulnerable groups, risk factors and protective measures (some of which) a school can provide.

<b>Vulnerable groups</b>	<b>Risk factors</b>	<b>Protective factors</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homeless</li> <li>• Looked after</li> <li>• Truants</li> <li>• Excluded from school</li> <li>• Sexually abused</li> <li>• Prostitutes</li> <li>• In contact with mental health &amp; criminal justice system.</li> <li>• Children of parents with drug problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chaotic home environment.</li> <li>• Parents who misuse drugs or suffer from mental illness.</li> <li>• Behavioural disorders.</li> <li>• Lack of parental nurturing.</li> <li>• Aggressive/inappropriate classroom behaviour.</li> <li>• School failure.</li> <li>• Poor coping skills.</li> <li>• Low commitment to school.</li> <li>• Friendship with deviant peers.</li> <li>• Low socio-economic status.</li> <li>• Early age of first drug use.</li> <li>• Being labelled as a drug misuser.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong family bonds.</li> <li>• Experiences of strong parenting with clear family rules.</li> <li>• Family involvement in lives of children.</li> <li>• Successful schooling.</li> <li>• Strong bonds with community activities.</li> <li>• Caring relationship with at least one adult role model.</li> <li>• Supportive school network.</li> <li>• Realistic self awareness and self esteem.</li> <li>• A good knowledge of the effects and risks of drugs.</li> <li>• Involvement in extra-curricular activities.</li> </ul>