

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL



Chelsea Community Hospital School

DATE 07/07/2023

THIS IS A DRUGS AND ALCOHOL POLICY FOR CHELSEA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL SCHOOL WHICH HAS BEEN WRITTEN IN CONSULTATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY INCLUDING STAFF, GOVERNORS, RESPECTIVE HEALTH TRUSTS, LOCAL AUTHORITY, PUPILS AND PARENTS.

School Mission Statement

The Chelsea Community Hospital School aims to ensure that children and young people have their rights to education preserved as hospital school pupils, community pupils or home tuition pupils.

We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum, in line with the National Curriculum, taking into consideration each student's individual needs, and through this to extend the development of the whole child, spiritually, socially and intellectually.

We firmly believe that education is a partnership between school and home, and we actively seek parental involvement in the learning process.

SCHOOL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- We are a Community Special School providing education for students and young people while they are in hospital.
- We also provide places for a number of pupils who cannot access mainstream school due to their medical conditions.
- Our school is based across six NHS hospital sites in central London as well as a site for community pupils, they are: The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, The Royal Brompton Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, The Collingham Child and Family Centre, Lavender Walk Adolescent Unit and The Bayswater Children's Center for our community pupils. We also work with children and young people in their home settings when necessary.
- We teach across all key stages in both primary and secondary.

TOTAL NO. OF PUPILS

Variable due to hospital admissions.

DISSEMINATION

Key information from this policy will be incorporated into the following documents where appropriate:

- School website
- Staff induction materials
- Governor induction materials
- Pupil documentation
- Newsletters
- Staff meetings
- Parent events
- On request from the school office

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION DATE

07/07/2023

POLICY REVIEW DATE

07/07/2024

NAME: Marie Cassidy

DATE: 07/07/2023

1. School Statement

Chelsea Community Hospital Schools, recognises the harm that all drugs can have, be they illegal, legal or medicines.

We aim, through this policy and its guidelines, to provide clear and consistent protocols and expectations relating to the management and reporting of drugs related incidents on the school site, to promote the health, safety and welfare of our whole school community.

2. Definition of Terminology

The following terms are used in this policy in relation to drugs:

- **a drug** is a substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave
- the term **drugs** is used to refer to all drugs including;
 - illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971), for example cocaine, cannabis, heroine, new psychoactive substances - 'legal highs';
 - legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and volatile substances; and
 - all over-the-counter and prescription medicines
- **drug use** is drug taking, for example consuming alcohol, taking medication or using illegal drugs
- **drug misuse** is drug taking which leads a person to experience social, psychological, physical or legal problems related to intoxication or regular excessive consumption and/or dependence. It may be part of a wider spectrum of problematic or harmful behaviour.

3. Key contacts:

- 3.1 Head Teacher: Janette Steel
- 3.2 Designated Safeguarding Lead: Amanda Thompson
- 3.3 PSHE Lead: Jags Kaul/Marie Cassidy
- 3.4 Lead Governor: Charlie Stringer

4. Policy Development

This policy was developed by the school governors and the PHSE lead in consultation with students/staff/parents and carers/ and wider community.

5. Links to other School Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- 5.1 Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy
- 5.2 Health and Safety Policy
- 5.3 First Aid Policy
- 5.4 Behaviour Policy
- 5.5 PSHE Policy (*Statutory Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco Education within Health Education Curriculum*)

6. Compliance with National Guidance and Links with Statutory Curriculum Requirements

- 6.1 Our policy and procedures for managing drug related incidents have been developed in accordance with the departmental advice from the DfE and Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/drugs-advice-for-schools> along with the additional DfE Guidance on Searching, Screening and Confiscation: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1091132/Searching_Screening_and_Confiscation_guidance_July_2022.pdf
As such, we consider all situations individually and recognise a variety of actions that may be necessary to respond to drug related incidents, as recommended by this non-statutory guidance for schools.
- 6.2 We acknowledge the essential link between managing drug related incidents and our role in providing a broad, balanced and accurate Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education (DATE) curriculum for all our students. We achieve this through PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education), within our Health Education focus on DATE which aims to enable students to take their place safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exist, by making informed choices. In order for them to do so, they need to understand the nature of drugs, their social and legal status, their uses and effects. We further explore attitudes about drugs and provide opportunities for students to develop skills to manage themselves in various situations, whilst recognising their responsibilities for managing their own behaviour.

7. Aims of Policy

- 7.1 To promote and safeguard the health and safety of all students and staff within the school
- 7.2 To confirm our position that any illegal and other unauthorised drugs related incidents are not acceptable on the school site and/or within organised school activity off site such as school visits/trips. We also confirm our safeguarding responsibility to respond to drug related incidents outside of school that might compromise a student's safety, including student or parental drug and alcohol misuse away from the school site.
- 7.3 To provide all staff with the procedures to be followed when dealing with drug related incidents in a fair, professional, proportionate and consistent manner.

- 7.4 To confirm our arrangements and procedures for authorised drugs including managing medicines and being a non-smoking site
- 7.5 To share all these expectations and procedures for managing all drug related incidents with governors, parents, students, external organisations and the wider school community
- 7.6 To provide an environment which endorses a range of learning and supportive responses for those involved in an incident that are not undermined by an unduly punitive response.

8. Procedures for Managing Drug Related Incidents

In response to any drugs related incident, it is essential that each situation is considered individually and that the needs and circumstances of the students are paramount.

If the situation leads to a medical emergency the school emergency aid procedures will be followed immediately.

In the absence of a medical emergency the Head Teacher, Janette Steel and Designated Safeguarding Lead, Amanda Thompson will be informed and an appropriate response considered.

Protocols for responding to the following drug related incidents, in line with national guidance, are outlined as flow charts in Appendix 1:

- **Parents/Carers/Others under the influence of drugs /alcohol on school premises**
- Student(s) under the influence of drugs /alcohol on school premises.
- **Students using medicines inappropriately on school premises.**
- Drugs and / or paraphernalia found on students and/or premises
- **Students making disclosure about their own or parents/carers/others use of drugs/alcohol**
- **Supplying (drugs/alcohol/tobacco) by students/parents/carers/others**

If we are presented with any other drugs related incidents not outlined in Appendix 1, we will refer to the DfE and ACPO guidance.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances we will inform parents /carers at the earliest opportunity so that we can work together to support the student and to resolve difficulties.

Our aim is to enable all students to fulfil their potential. We will work with the student, their parents or carers and colleagues from other agencies to remove barriers to achievement and resolve any difficulties that exist. Drug related situations will be considered alongside other circumstances in the young person's life and not in isolation. We accept that it is never appropriate to respond in a way that is more punitive than that which might be considered by the police so that exclusion, whilst it remains an option, will be used as the very last resort. Opportunities for supporting students following these situations include:

- **Review with parents/carers after the incident**
- **Further drugs, alcohol and tobacco education**
- **Targeted support on a one to one basis**
- **Referral to an outside agency**

We have a range of professional colleagues who can give or obtain advice and support in drug or alcohol related situations. These include the school's Education Welfare Officer, the local Police Liaison Officer, members of the local Youth Offending Team (whose roles include supporting young people at risk of offending) our local Drug and Alcohol agencies and counselling services. These colleagues can help with a needs assessment and support us in developing an appropriate response. The student/s will always be told when information is being passed on, in accordance with the school's policy on confidentiality.

Should a substance suspected of being illicit be found on the school premises it will be handed to the headteacher and, in the presence of another member of staff placed in a sealed container in the school safe until it can be delivered to or collected by a police officer. S/he will also be involved in advising the school on the most appropriate response to the situation. The Local Authority School Drug Adviser and Drug & Alcohol Action Team are also able to provide guidance and advice.

All staff will be made aware of the legal constraints on gathering evidence and questioning those involved. They will not take action without involving the co-ordinator.

9. Smoking Statement

Smoking and vaping is not allowed on the school site.

10. Training for School Staff

All staff receive training for managing drug related incidents as part of their induction, which includes full review of this policy and procedures, in line with all relevant policies as outlined in section 4 of this policy. Designated staff who lead on this area, including responding to incidents and/or managing and administering medicines on school site, will receive annual CPD to enhance their knowledge, understanding and skills through in-house CPD and/or external training courses.

12. Disseminating and Monitoring the Policy

A copy of this policy will be supplied to all staff and governors and included within the school handbook, staff handbook, governor handbook and new staff induction materials.

A full copy will be published on the school website and made freely available to parents on request and if appropriate a summary will be published in the school prospectus. Copies will also be supplied to other professionals whose work relates to this area of work, or who may be involved in the delivery of curriculum related areas.

Written by: Marie Cassidy

Role: English Teacher and Healthy School's Coordinator

Date Agreed: 07/07/2023

Next Review Date: 07/07/2027

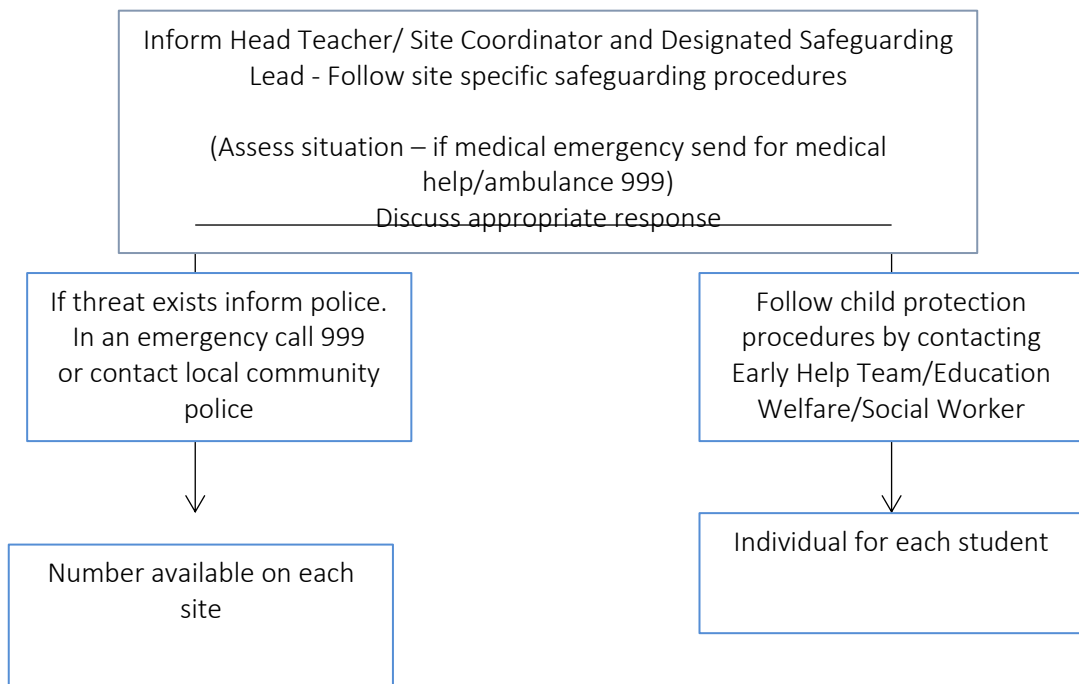
Appendix 1

Procedures for Managing Drugs Related Incidents

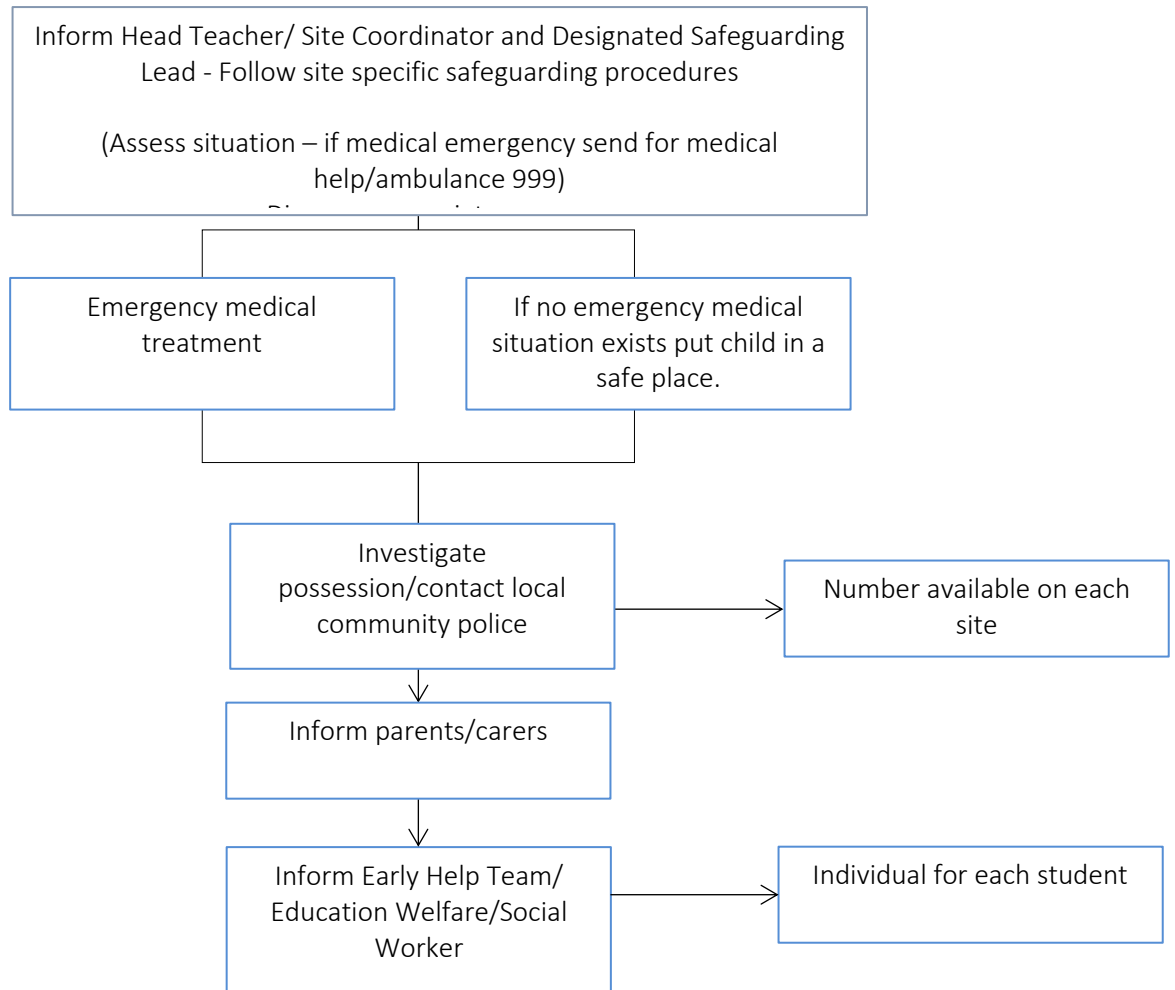
This appendix outlines our procedures for managing the following drugs related Incidents, as detailed in each flow chart:

1. Parents/Carers/Others under the influence of drugs/alcohol on school premises
2. Student(s) under the influence of drugs/alcohol on school premises.
3. Students using medicines inappropriately on school premises.
4. Drugs and/or paraphernalia found on students and/or premises
5. Student makes disclosure about their own or their parents'/carers'/others' use of drugs/alcohol
6. Supplying (drugs/alcohol/tobacco) by students/parents/carers/others

1) Parents/Carers/Others under the Influence of drugs/alcohol on school premises

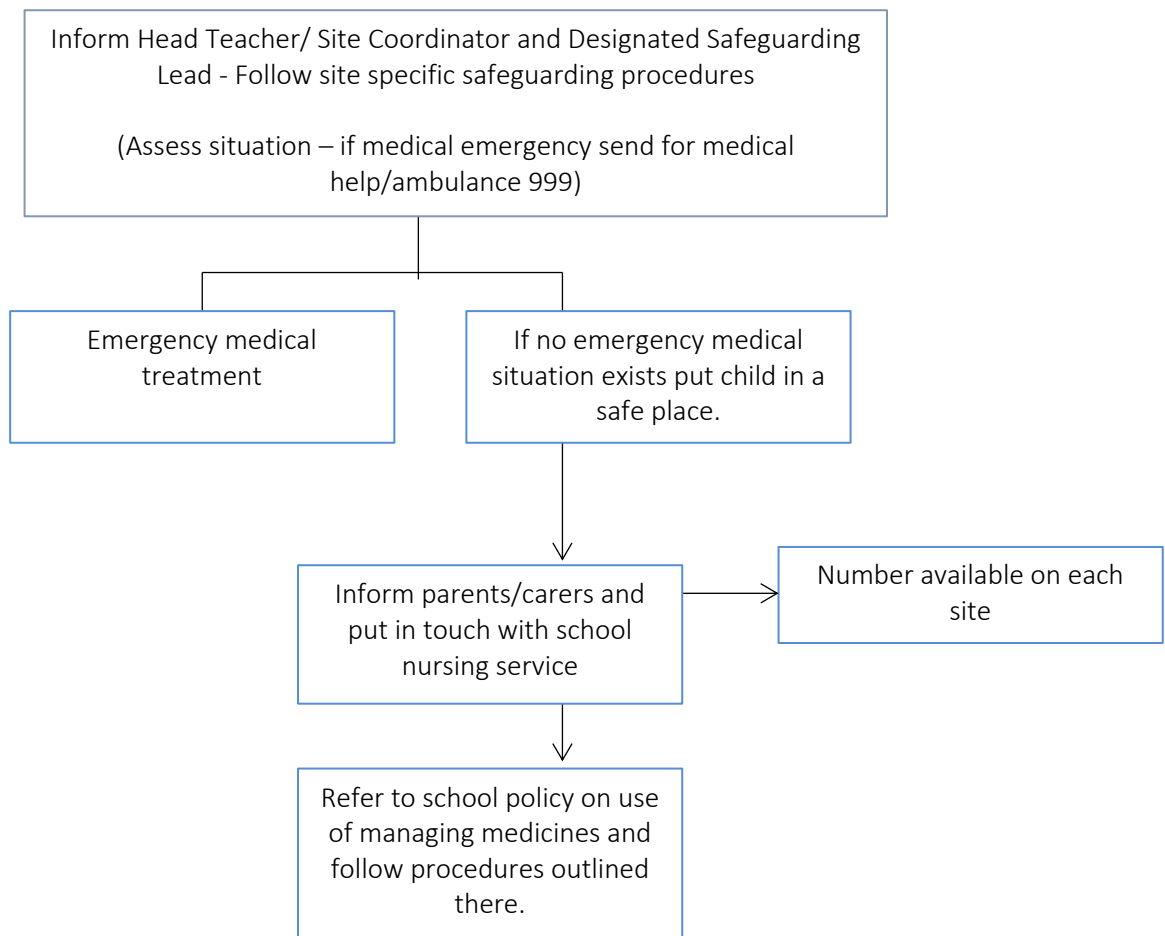


2) Student(s) under the influence of drugs/alcohol on school premises.

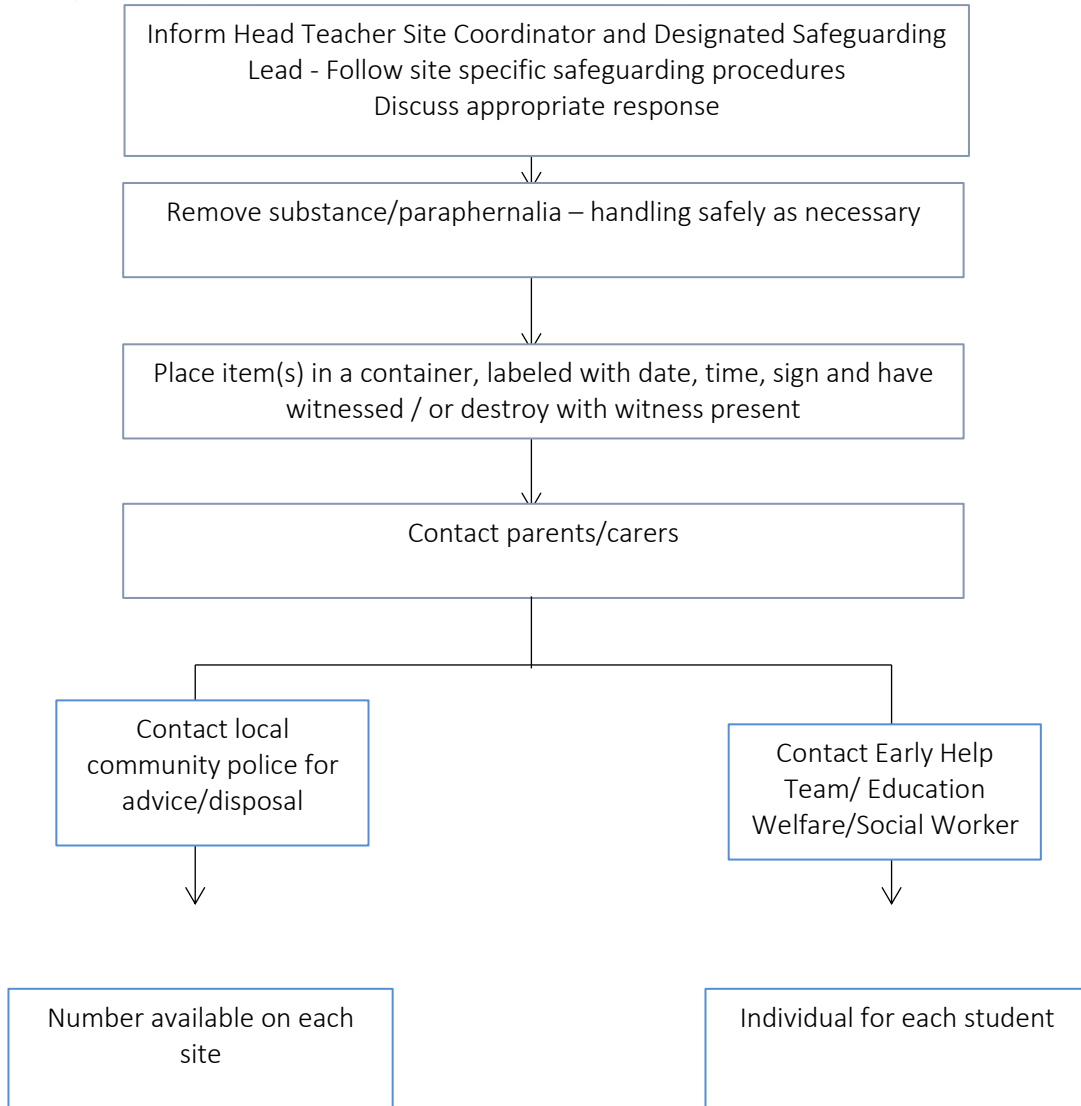


N.B. If tobacco is the drug used you may wish to follow school behavior/discipline policy.

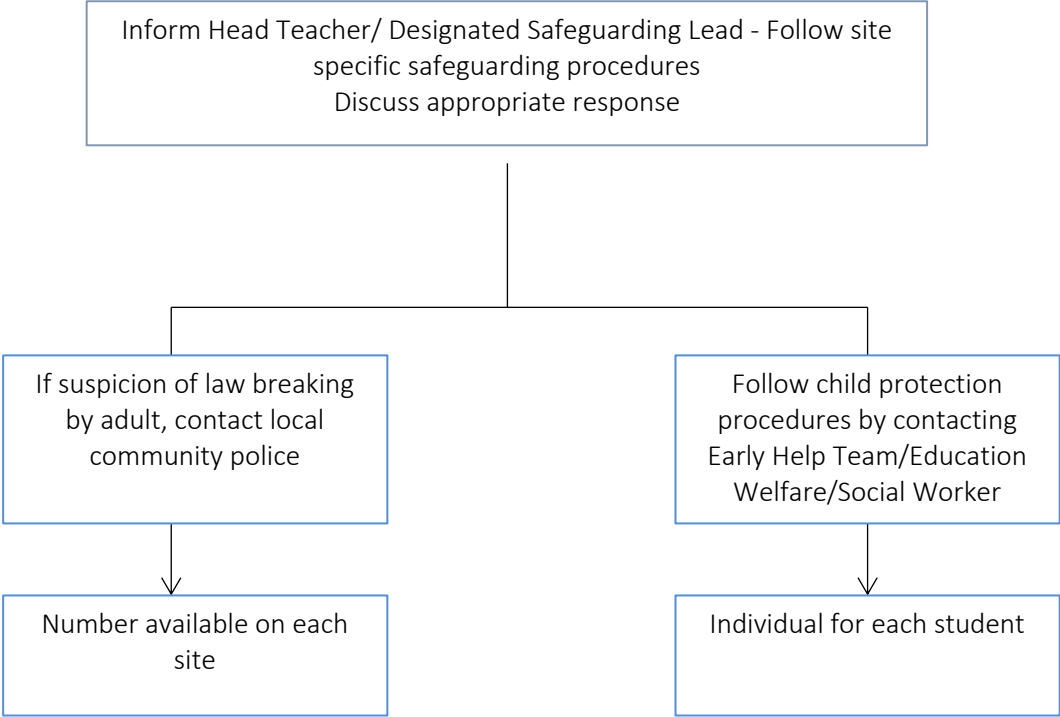
3) Students using medicines inappropriately on school premises.



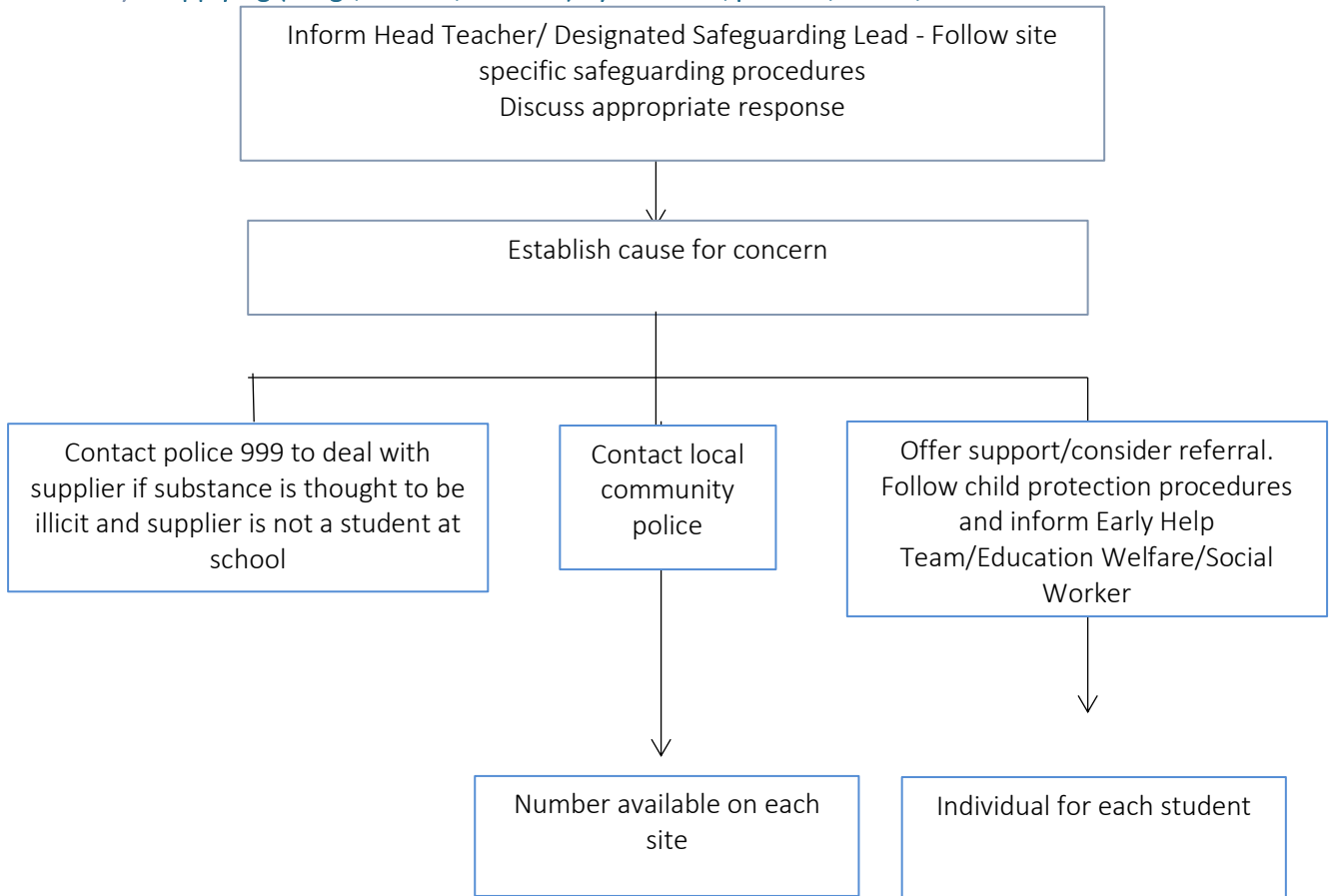
4) Drugs and/or paraphernalia found on students and/or premises



5) Student makes disclosure about their own or their parents'/carers'/others' use of drugs/alcohol



6) Supplying (drugs/alcohol/tobacco) by students/parents/carers/others



Links with other policies

This policy is linked to our: Safeguarding Policy

