

Drugs and alcohol: How well is your school promoting pupils' health and wellbeing?

Children today grow up in a world where alcohol and other drugs, legal and illegal, are everyday realities. Schools have an important role to play in ensuring that they are well equipped to navigate this world safely. By asking headteachers the right questions, governors can ensure that schools are protecting pupils effectively and are prepared for any incidents. More information is available from our presentation at www.mentoruk.org.uk/resources/schools/governors

Questions to ask:

- What are we doing to promote health and wellbeing around alcohol, drugs and tobacco? What impact have these measures had? What is the evidence for that? What needs to happen next?

More questions:

- Has the school got a [policy](#) in place which sets out clearly the school's approach to drug education, its response to incidents, and support for children and young people where needed?
- How are drug and alcohol issues and needs in the school identified?
- Would PSHE education be assessed as good or outstanding according to [current Ofsted guidelines](#)?
- If not, what needs to improve?
- How can you be sure that teachers responsible for drug education are up-to-date in their knowledge and confident in their ability to discuss sensitive topics with pupils?
- What are you doing to improve the school's PSHE education? What evidence of improvement is there as a result?
- When the school's drug policy was last reviewed, who was consulted?
- Have pupils been consulted on what they think of drug education or school rules on drugs?
- What links are there with agencies providing support to children and young people around drug and alcohol?
- What measures have you in place to identify pupils who need support?