



Spring 2 – What is a drug?

Lesson	Activity Outline	Knowledge and Skills	Key Vocabulary	Context
1	Domestic Violence workshop with Michelle Tolley (DSL) – bolt-on. Year 3 – 21 st February 14:15 – 15:00 Year 4 – 22 nd February 13:45 – 14:30 Floorbook expectation: pupil voice and images.		,	
2	LO: To understand the concept of legal and non-legal drugs, street names for drugs, and the laws related to drug use and possession. Before the lesson, outline to the children that this is a safe environment, and they are free to discuss anything. To assess students' prior knowledge of this topic, conduct a brief class discussion by asking the following questions: • What do you understand by the term 'drugs'? • Can you give examples of drugs that are legal? • What are some potential dangers associated with drug use? • Have you heard of any street names for drugs?	H47. to recognise that there are laws surrounding the use of legal drugs and that some drugs are illegal to own, use and give to others H50. about the organisations that can support people concerning	Legal drugs: Substances that are prescribed or regulated by the law and considered safe for consumption or use. Non-legal drugs: Substances that are illegal	Pupils should know: The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking. Gov.UK National Statistics





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

British Value Link: Individual Liberty

•	Introduce the topic by displaying images of various drugs, including
	legal drugs such as nicotine and caffeine, as well as non-legal drugs
	like cannabis and cocaine.

- Ask students to identify and classify them into legal and non-legal drugs.
- After a brief discussion, introduce the concept of street names and ask if any students are familiar with any street names for drugs.
 Explain that street names are slang terms used to refer to drugs.

Input

Provide a clear definition and explanation of legal and non-legal drugs. Provide examples of legal drugs, such as medicines prescribed by doctors or over-the-counter drugs available in pharmacies. Discuss non-legal drugs, highlighting their potential dangers and the reasons for their legal classification. The concept of street names for drugs will be introduced, with presenting examples of common street names for drugs.

Activity

Students will be divided into small groups. Each group will be given a set of flashcards with different drug names, both legal and non-legal. The flashcards will include a mix of street names and actual drug names. The groups will work together to sort the flashcards into categories: legal drugs, non-legal drugs, and street names. As a class, the groups will share their categorisation and discuss any disagreements or uncertainties. Teacher needs to guide the discussion, providing explanations and clarifications where needed.

Plenary

City		
and nicotine or	regulated by	Young people's
other drug use;	the law, often	substance
people they can	associated	misuse
talk to if they	with harmful	treatment
have concerns	effects on	statistics 2021
	health.	to 2022: report
		"There were
Disciplinary	Street names:	11,326 young
knowledge:	Slang terms or	people (people
Understanding	code words	under the age
legal and non-	used to refer	of 18) in
legal drugs, street	to drugs, often	contact with
names for drugs,	used to	alcohol and
and laws related	conceal their	drug services
to drug use and	actual names.	between April
possession.		2021 and
	Laws: Rules	March 2022.
Substantive	and	This is a 3%
knowledge:	regulations set	increase from
Knowing the	by the	the previous
specific types of	government to	year (11,013)
legal and non-	maintain order	but a 54%
legal drugs, being	and protect	reduction in
familiar with	citizens.	the number in

common street

treatment





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

	A class discussion will be conducted based on the activity. The teacher will ask students to share their observations and highlight any interesting or surprising findings. Key concepts, such as legal and non-legal drugs, street names, and laws related to drug use and possession will be summarised. The teacher will also emphasise the importance of making informed decisions regarding drugs and the potential consequences of using non-legal drugs. Resources Needed Images of various drugs (legal and non-legal) Flashcards with different drug names (legal and non-legal, including street names) Floorbook expectation: pupil voice and images.	names for drugs, and understanding the reasons for the laws regarding drug use and possession.		since 2008 to 2009 (24,494)."
3	LO: Smoking and Vaping, Effects of Drugs and Smoking, Peer Pressure, and Finding Support Book links No Smoking No Drinking. No Drugs To evaluate the students' prior knowledge, the teacher can begin the lesson with a class discussion. The teacher can ask questions such as: • Have you heard of smoking and vaping? What do you know about them?	H46. about the risks and effects of legal drugs common to everyday life (e.g. cigarettes, e-cigarettes/vaping, alcohol and medicines) and	Smoking: The act of inhaling smoke from a cigarette, pipe, or cigar. Vaping: The act of inhaling and exhaling	





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

British Value Link: Individual Liberty

•	What do	you think the	effects of	f smoking	and var	oing might be?

- Have you ever heard about drugs? What do you think drugs can do to our bodies?
- Have you ever felt pressured by someone to do something you didn't want to do?

Starter

Show the students images of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and drugs, and ask students to share what they know about them. Discuss their responses as a whole class and create a mind map on the board to record their ideas.

Input

Begin by explaining that smoking involves inhaling smoke from a cigarette, while vaping involves using an electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) that produces vapor.

- Use visual aids (e.g., pictures, videos, diagrams) to illustrate how smoking and vaping can harm the body, focusing on the impact on the lungs, heart, and overall health.
- Discuss the effects of smoking and vaping, including short-term effects (e.g., bad breath, coughing) and long-term effects (e.g., lung cancer, heart disease).
- Transition to discussing the harmful effects of drugs on the body, including the damage they can cause to organs, brain function, and overall health.

their impact on health; recognise that drug use can become a habit which can be difficult to break

H49. about the mixed messages in the media about drugs, including alcohol and smoking/vaping

By the end of this lesson, students should know:
The harmful chemicals in cigarettes and ecigarettes and their effects on the body.

vapor produced by an electronic cigarette (ecigarette).

Drugs: Substances that can alter the way the body functions or the mind works.

Peer pressure:
Influence from
friends or
peers to
behave or
think in a
certain way,
often leading
to doing
something you





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

	The short-term	may not want
Activity	and long-term	to do.
 Divide the class into small groups and provide each group with a scenario related to smoking, vaping, or drugs, involving peer pressure. In their groups, students should brainstorm and role-play strategies to resist peer pressure in these situations. After the role-play, each group should present their scenario and the strategies they came up with to the class. Lead a class discussion to reflect on the different strategies and identify which ones would be most effective in resisting peer pressure. 	effects of smoking and vaping. The harmful effects of drugs on the body. Strategies to resist peer pressure related to smoking,	Support: Help or guidance provided by others in times of difficulty or uncertainty.
 Introduce the concept of finding support and encourage students to consider who they can talk to if they have concerns related to smoking, vaping, or drugs. Discuss the importance of seeking help and identify suitable trusted adults, such as parents, teachers, or the FLO team. Provide each student with a support contact sheet where they can record the contact details of individuals they can reach out to if they have concerns (use the generic school one). 	vaping, and drugs. Suitable adults and sources of support they can turn to if they have concerns related to smoking, vaping, or drugs.	
Resources Needed:		
 Images of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and drugs. 		
 Visual aids, e.g., videos, diagrams, or online resources. 		





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

4	 Scenario cards for group activity. Support contact sheets for each student. Paper, pens, and colouring materials for creating posters or leaflets. Floorbook expectation: pupil voice and images. LO: To understand alcohol misuse and why people drink alcohol or take drugs To assess students' prior knowledge and understanding of alcohol and drugs, the teacher can use the following questions: Have you heard of alcohol before? What do you know about it? What do you think drugs are? Can you give an example? Do you know why some people might choose to drink alcohol or take drugs? What are some possible dangers or risks associated with alcohol and drug misuse? Starter: Display a range of images related to alcohol and drugs on the board. Ask students to discuss in pairs or small groups what they think the images represent. Encourage them to share their ideas. After a short discussion, elicit their responses and write key ideas on the board. Input (Explanation): 	H48. about why people choose to use or not use drugs (including nicotine, alcohol and medicines); Students should understand the difference between alcohol and drugs. Students should be aware of potential risks and consequences associated with alcohol and drug misuse.	Alcohol: A type of drink that can make people feel relaxed or drunk when consumed in large quantities. Drugs: Substances that can change how a person thinks, feels, or acts. Misuse: Using something (like alcohol or drugs) in a way	Census 2021 data: Approximately 1 in 11 adults aged 16 to 59 years (9.2%; approximately 3 million adults) and approximately 1 in 5 adults aged 16 to 24 years (18.6%; approximately 1.1 million adults) reported last year drug use in the year ending June 2022; there
	Introduce and explain the key vocabulary:	misuse.	arugs) in a way	2022; there





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

British Value Link: Individual Liberty				
Alcohol: A type of drink that can make people feel relaxed or drunk		that is harmful	was no change	
when consumed in large quantities.	Students should	or	compared with	
Drugs: Substances that can change how a person thinks, feels, or	learn and reflect	inappropriate.	the year ending	
acts.	on the reasons		March 2020.	
 Facilitate a class discussion on why people might drink alcohol or take 	why people may	Informed:		
drugs. Encourage students to share their thoughts and ideas while	choose to drink	Having		
guiding the conversation using prompting questions:	alcohol or take	knowledge and		
Have you ever seen someone drinking alcohol or taking drugs?	drugs.	understanding		
Where?		about a topic		
Can you think of any reasons why someone might choose to drink	Students should	or situation.		
alcohol or use drugs?	develop	Responsible:		
What do you think they might feel or experience when they do	strategies for	Making		
that?	making informed	choices that		
Are there any situations where it is not appropriate to drink	and responsible	consider the		
alcohol or use drugs?	choices about	well-being and		
Activity:	alcohol and	safety of		
 Divide the class into small groups and provide each group with a 	drugs.	oneself and		
scenario card. On the card, describe a situation in which a character		others.		
might consider drinking alcohol or taking drugs.				
 In their groups, students discuss the scenario and come up with 		Consequences:		
reasons why the character might consider using alcohol or drugs.		The results or		
 After group discussions, ask each group to share their ideas with the 		effects that		
whole class. Facilitate a brief discussion around each scenario,		follow from an		
including the potential risks and consequences of alcohol and drug		action or		
misuse in those situations.		decision.		





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

	Plenary:		
	 Revisit the images displayed at the beginning of the lesson. Students independently write a reflection in their journals or on a piece of paper, answering questions such as: Based on what we discussed, why do you think people might drink alcohol or take drugs? What risks or consequences did we discover in our group discussions? How can we make informed and responsible choices regarding alcohol and drugs? 		
	Resources Needed: Images related to alcohol and drugs Scenario cards (one per small group) Journals or paper for reflection		
	Floorbook expectation: pupil voice and images.		
5	Activity 1: Class Debate Divide the class into small groups and assign each group a specific statement related to drugs, alcohol, or tobacco (e.g., "Tobacco should be illegal for everyone"). Give the students time to research and gather evidence to support their assigned statement. Then, hold a class debate where each	As above	Assess the children's learning to see what they have learnt and if the lessons





Spring 2 – What is a drug?

group presents their arguments. Encourage critical thinking and respectful		have been
discussion.		useful to their
		outlook on
Activity 2: Fact or Fiction?		what it a drug,
Provide the class with a series of statements about drugs, alcohol, and		
tobacco. Some statements should be true, while others should be false.		
Students work individually or in pairs to determine whether each statement		
is fact or fiction. Afterward, discuss each statement as a class, providing the		
correct information and clarifying any misconceptions.		
Activity 3: Creating Infographics		
Introduce the concept of infographics and their purpose in presenting		
information visually. Ask students to research facts and statistics about		
drugs, alcohol, and tobacco and then create their own infographics using		
online tools or software. Focus on accurate data representation and clear		
visual communication of key messages. Display the finished infographics		
around the classroom or in a school-wide exhibition.		