



The Marlborough Science Academy Self-Harm Policy	
Responsible Governing Body Committee:	Personnel Committee
Policy type:	Statutory
Date of Origin:	September 2013
Adopted by:	Full GB
Author:	David Bridgland
Location:	
Filename:	

Review Due Date	Review Completed	Amendments Y/N
April 2016	Yes	Yes
April 2018		

Other policies/procedures linked to this policy:

Teaching and Learning Policy GP38
Equal Opportunities GP09
Anti Bullying Policy GP15
Special Education Needs Policy GP21
Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding GP11

Status:

Additional Policy

Definition

In keeping with the school's values, this policy aims to address the issue of self-harm:

It defines self-harm as

"A full and conscious intention by the individual to cause injury, completed in a limited period of time, resulting in tissue damage that leads to scarring"

Purpose

The Governing Body wants to address the issues surrounding self-harm. It wants to make clear that staff have a clear responsibility to make enquiries if they have reason to suspect that a student is suffering or likely to suffer from self-harm. The investigations should enable them to decide what action to take. It expects that the students who self-harm will be offered support depending on their individual needs and to help students improve their self-esteem and emotional literacy. It will ensure that staff members that come into contact with students who self-harm will be supported. Clear guidelines will be in place for the staff to follow when dealing with students who self-harm; this includes who needs to be informed, and when parents and outside agencies need contacting. The school will educate students and staff alike about self-harm.

Risks

The school understands that students who self-harm may well have underlying issues which increase the risk associated with self-harm these include

- Mental Health disorders including depression and eating disorders
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Recent trauma, e.g. death of a relative or parent's divorce
- Low self-esteem
- Bullying
- Abuse-sexual, physical and emotional
- Sudden changes in behaviour and academic performance
- Suicide
- Accidental self-harm
- Neglect

Who/what was consulted

School medical service
LEA- Emotional and Wellbeing Strategy
Schools Mental Health lead

Implementation and Recording:

The policy is available for all staff to read and use.
All incidents are recorded

Relationship to other policies

Health and Safety Policy, Drug Education Policy, Anti Bullying Policy, Behaviour Management Policy

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Monitoring of this policy will be a variety of methods including an analysis of the behaviour database, and the self-harm log, exclusions and the re integration and sanctuary rooms, surveying staff, attainment, student and parental views, as well as new advice given to schools through our Local Pastoral Hub attended by Schools Mental health Lead from CAMHS and other supply agencies and professionals.