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**Drug education in schools, 2000/01**

The *Drug Education in Schools, 2000/01* survey was published by the Scottish Executive Education Department in July 2001.

In January 2001, local authorities in Scotland were asked to collect information on the drug education provided by all of the schools under their control. Each school was required to give details of whether they provided drug education, what type of drug education they provided and also their procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse and tobacco smoking. Around the same time, all other schools in Scotland (i.e. independent, grant-aided and opted-out schools) were also asked to provide similar details of their drug education policies and procedures. Responses were obtained from 99 per cent of local authority schools and 87 per cent of other schools.

The survey covers all primary, secondary and special schools but not pre-school education centres. The results exclude responses from a small number of special schools for whom provision of drug education is not appropriate for some or all of their pupils, due to complex learning difficulties.

For the purposes of this survey, drugs are defined as mood changing substances including medicine, alcohol, tobacco, solvents and controlled drugs such as cannabis, cocaine and heroin.

A school is defined as providing drug education to each pupil if every pupil who stays at that school 'from start to finish' will receive drug education at some point. To provide 'progression and continuity', it would be expected that each pupil would receive drug education at several stages during their time at a particular school.

The main findings are:

- In 2000/01, 97 per cent of schools in Scotland provided drug education as compared to 95 per cent in 1999/00. Virtually all secondary schools said they provided drug education while 98 per cent and 80 per cent of responding primary and special schools, respectively, said they did so. A greater proportion of local authority schools than other schools provided drug education, notably in the primary sector. ([Table 94](#))
- In 2000/01, 93 per cent of schools provided education on controlled drugs and this proportion was at least as high for alcohol, tobacco, solvents and safe use of medicine. Figures for all types of drug education show increases from 1999/00. ([Table 94](#))
- 81 per cent of schools said they provided drug education in line with current national advice. ([Table 95](#))
- In 2000/01, 64 per cent of schools had written procedures for managing incidents of drugs misuse in line with current national advice as compared to 52 per cent in 1999/00. These proportions were 61 per cent, 81 per cent and 65 per cent in primary, secondary and special schools, respectively. Local authority schools were far more likely than other schools to have such procedures. ([Table 96](#))

## 94 Schools providing drug education and the types of drug education involved : 2000/01

sector/type of school

	Schools which provide drug education <i>percentage</i>	Schools which provide drug education on :				
		Safe use of medicine	Alcohol	Tobacco	Solvents	Controlled drugs
<b>Local authority schools</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>94</b>
Primary	98	96	96	98	95	95
Secondary	100	91	100	99	99	99
Special	80	74	77	74	75	75
<b>All other schools<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>89</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>79</b>
Primary	85	82	79	84	70	67
Secondary	98	88	98	98	94	96
Special	81	64	81	81	75	75
<b>All schools<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>97</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>93</b>
Primary	98	96	96	97	95	94
Secondary	100	90	100	99	98	99
Special	80	73	77	75	75	75
<b>All schools<sup>2</sup> -1999/00 comparison</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>86</b>

1 Covers independent schools and a small number of grant-aided and opted-out schools.

2 Schools which have both primary and secondary departments are counted under both categories.

Source : The Scottish Executive Education Department.

## 95 Schools which provide drug education which is in line with current national advice<sup>1</sup> ; type of school : 2000/01

sector

	Scotland	Primary	Secondary	Special
	<i>percentage</i>			
Local authority schools	<b>83</b>	83	88	61
All other schools <sup>2,3</sup>	<b>58</b>	49	73	53
All schools <sup>3</sup>	<b>81</b>	82	86	60

1 Current national advice on drug education is set out in the following:

- How Good is our School?* (The Scottish Office, 1996) - performance indicator 1.2 (quality of course or programme).
- A Route to Health Promotion - self evaluation using performance indicators* (Scottish Executive, 1999).
- HELP UP-DATE on drug and nutrition education (SCCC Curriculum File No 9)
- 5-14 national guidelines on health education.

2 Covers independent schools and a small number of grant-aided and opted-out schools.

3 Schools which have both primary and secondary departments are counted under both categories.

Source : The Scottish Executive Education Department.

## 96 | Schools with written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse : 2000/01

sector/type of school

	Schools which have written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse:			Do not have written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse and not in preparation
	in line with current national advice <sup>3</sup>	not in line with current national advice <sup>3</sup>	in preparation	
	percentage			
<b>Local authority schools</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>
Primary	61	2	14	23
Secondary	85	1	7	7
Special	71	2	10	17
<b>All other schools<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>43</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b>
Primary	39	7	31	23
Secondary	51	10	22	18
Special	36	14	22	28
<b>All schools<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>
Primary	61	2	15	23
Secondary	81	2	9	8
Special	65	4	12	19
<b>All schools<sup>2</sup> - 1999/00 comparison</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>31</b>

1 Covers independent schools and a small number of grant-aided and opted-out schools.

2 Schools which have both primary and secondary departments are counted under both categories.

3 Current national advice on drug education is set out in the following:

- a *How Good is our School?* (The Scottish Office, 1996) - performance indicator 1.2 (quality of course or programme).
- b *A Route to Health Promotion - self evaluation using performance indicators* (Scottish Executive, 1999).
- c HELP UP-DATE on drug and nutrition education (SCCC Curriculum File No 9)
- d 5-14 national guidelines on health education.

Source : Scottish Executive Education Department.

