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DRUG EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, 2002/2003

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A Scottish Executive National Statistics Publication

The results of the fourth annual survey on drug education in schools are published today by the Scottish Executive Education Department.

Information was collected on the drug education provided by all schools in Scotland. Each school was required to give details of whether they provided drug education, what type of drug education they provided and their procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse and tobacco smoking.

Responses were obtained from 99 per cent of local authority schools and 94 per cent of all other schools.

The main findings are:

- In 2002/03, 99 per cent of schools in Scotland provided drug education, compared to 98 per cent in 2001/02. The figure is 100% for Local Authority primary and secondary schools but is lower for special schools and non LA schools. ([Table 1](#))
- In 2002/03, 99 per cent of schools provided education on controlled drugs (compared with 98 per cent for 2001/02) and this had also increased for all other types of drug education (the safe use of medicine, alcohol, tobacco and solvents). ([Table 1](#))
- Ninety-eight per cent of schools provided drug education to each pupil at some point during their schooling, and 97 per cent said that each pupil will receive drug education which provides progression and continuity throughout their schooling (compared with 97 per cent and 94 per cent respectively for 2001/02). 94 per cent of schools reported providing drug education that was in line with current national advice. ([Table 1](#))

- Fifty-six per cent of schools with drug education programmes had revised them within the last two years, and a further 40 per cent within the last two to five years. (Table 2)
- In 2002/03, 84 per cent of schools had written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse that are in line with current national advice. These proportions were 83 per cent for primary schools, 90 per cent for secondary schools and 87 per cent for special schools. Local authority schools were more likely than other schools to have such procedures. (Table 3)
- Seventy-two per cent of schools with written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse had revised them within the last two years, and a further 26 per cent within the last two to five years. (Table 4)
- Fifty-nine per cent of schools had written procedures for managing incidents of tobacco smoking by pupils and 79 per cent by other school users e.g. teachers and visitors (compared with 51 per cent and 73 per cent respectively in 2001/02). Primary schools were less likely than other schools to have such procedures for pupils. (Table 5)
- Eighty-nine per cent of schools reported that they had access to a health education co-ordinator (compared with 87% in 2001/02). (Table 5)
- All local authority primary schools in 20 authorities reported that each pupil will receive drug education which provides progression and continuity and that all types of drug education were covered. In other local authorities, the vast majority of primary schools said that they provided each form of drug education.

The following tables are available:

- Table 1 - Schools which provide drug education and the types of drug education involved, 2002/03
- Table 2 - Schools which provide drug education by when programme was last revised, 2002/03.
- Table 3 - Schools with written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse, 2002/03.
- Table 4 - Schools with written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse by when last revised, 2002/03.
- Table 5 - Schools with written procedures for managing incidents of tobacco smoking, 2002/03.
- Table 6 - Local authority primary schools which provide drug education and the types of drug education involved, 2002/03.

BACKGROUND NOTES

1. 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.
2. For the purposes of this survey, drugs are defined as mood changing substances including medicine, alcohol, tobacco, solvents and controlled drugs such as, for example, cannabis, cocaine and heroin.
3. 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* (Aberdeen City Council, HEBS, HMI, 1999).
 - HELP UP-DATE on drug and nutrition education (LT Scotland Curriculum File No 9).
 - 5-14 national guidelines on health education.
4. 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.
5. For drug education to be in line with national advice, it must be provided to every pupil and provide pupils with continuity and progression in their learning. It must also include education for all of the following areas: safe use of medicine, alcohol, tobacco, solvents and controlled drugs. All drug education has to take account of the age, stage and maturity of the children involved and it is accepted that education on controlled drugs may not be appropriate until later in primary school.
6. The methodology has changed since last year as schools are now classified as not following national advice if they report that they don't fulfil all of the criteria. In addition, the survey now takes account of the fact that infants (P1-P3) are not expected to be taught about controlled drugs.
7. The methodology has also changed since last year as schools are now classified as not having written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse which are in line with national advice, if the school reports that they do not have written procedures in place.
8. Current national advice on managing incidents of drugs misuse is set out in the following:
 - HMI reports : *Issues in health education and promotion* (1996) and *Drug and nutrition education* (1999).
 - HELP UP-DATE 1998.
 - Guidelines for the Management of Incidents of Drug Misuse in Schools (SDST, SEED, 2000).

9. **This is a National Statistics publication** National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.
10. Copies of all tables are available on the Scottish Executive website at www.scotland.gov.uk/stats
11. Public enquiries (non-media) about the information contained in this News Release should be addressed to Bianca Heggie, Assistant Statistician, SEED, 1-A Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ. Telephone 0131 244 0300 or e-mail ea.stats@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
12. Media enquiries about the information in this notice should be addressed to:
Press Education : 0131 244 4001

DRUG EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS 2002/03

TABLE 1: SCHOOLS WHICH PROVIDE DRUG EDUCATION AND THE TYPES OF DRUG EDUCATION INVOLVED, 2002/03

Sector/type of school	Percentage of schools which provide drug education ¹	<i>Of those schools which provide drug education, the percentage of schools where ¹</i>							
		This drug education covers					Each pupil will receive drug education ⁴	Each pupil will receive drug educ. which provides progression and continuity ⁵	This drug education is in line with current national advice ⁶
		Safe Use of Medicine	Alcohol	Tobacco	Solvents	Controlled Drugs			
2002/03									
Local authority schools									
Primary	100	99	100	100	99	99	98	97	95
Secondary	100	95	100	100	99	100	100	99	94
Special	96	100	99	98	98	97	95	94	93
Total	100	99	100	100	99	99	98	97	95
All other schools ^{2,3}									
Primary	95	97	100	100	95	93	92	86	75
Secondary	98	93	100	98	98	100	96	91	82
Special	97	87	97	97	97	97	87	90	77
Total	97	93	99	99	97	97	92	89	78
All schools ³									
Primary	99	99	100	100	99	99	98	96	95
Secondary	100	95	100	100	99	100	99	98	93
Special	96	97	98	98	98	97	93	93	89
Total	99	99	100	100	99	99	98	97	94
2001/02									
All schools ³	98	98	99	99	98	98	97	94	91

1. Figures are rounded - 100% may be displayed in some cases where the actual figure is greater than or equal to 99.5%.

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.

4. 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.

5. A school is defined as providing drug education to each pupil which provides 'progression and continuity in their learning as they move through the school' if every pupil would receive drug education at several stages during their time at a particular school.

6. A school which provides drug education in line with current national advice must cover all of the criteria (where appropriate) listed in the table. The methodology has changed for this question since 2001/02 (see Notes for details). Using last year's methodology, 95% of all schools had drug education in line with national advice.

DRUG EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, 2002/03

TABLE 2
SCHOOLS WHICH PROVIDE DRUG EDUCATION BY WHEN PROGRAMME WAS LAST REVISED, 2002/03

Sector/type of school	Of those schools which provide drug education, the percentage of schools where the drug education programme was last revised:		
	Less than 2 years ago	2-5 years ago	More than 5 years ago / Never
Local authority schools			
Primary	54	41	4
Secondary	64	35	1
Special	52	44	4
Total	56	40	4
All other schools^{1,2}			
Primary	73	27	0
Secondary	73	27	0
Special	70	17	13
Total	73	24	3
All schools²			
Primary	55	41	4
Secondary	65	34	1
Special	56	37	6
Total	56	40	4

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.

TABLE 3
SCHOOLS WITH WRITTEN PROCEDURES FOR MANAGING INCIDENTS OF DRUG MISUSE, 2002/03

Sector/type of school	Percentage of schools which:			
	Have written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse which are in line with current national advice ³	Have written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse which are <u>not</u> in line with current national advice	Have written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse <u>in</u> preparation	<u>Do not have</u> written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse and <u>not in preparation</u>
2002/03				
Local authority schools				
Primary	84	0	8	8
Secondary	95	0	3	2
Special	92	0	4	4
Total	85	0	7	7
All other schools^{1,2}				
Primary	50	6	24	20
Secondary	58	4	25	14
Special	71	0	6	23
Total	57	4	21	18
All schools²				
Primary	83	1	9	9
Secondary	90	0	6	4
Special	87	0	4	9
Total	84	1	8	8
2001/02				
All schools²	76	0	11	12

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. The methodology has changed for this question since 2001/02 (see Notes for details). Using last year methodology, 85% of all schools had written procedures in line with national advice.

DRUG EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, 2002/03

**TABLE 4
SCHOOLS WITH WRITTEN PROCEDURES FOR MANAGING INCIDENTS OF DRUG MISUSE BY WHEN LAST REVISED, 2002/03**

Sector/type of school	Of those schools which have written procedures for managing incidents of drug misuse, these procedures were revised:		
	Less than 2 years ago	2-5 years ago	More than 5 years ago / Never
Local authority schools			
Primary	71	26	2
Secondary	73	26	1
Special	74	24	2
Total	72	26	2
All other schools^{1,2}			
Primary	83	14	0
Secondary	89	11	0
Special	77	23	0
Total	85	14	0
All schools²			
Primary	71	26	2
Secondary	74	24	1
Special	75	23	2
Total	72	26	2

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.

DRUG EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, 2002/03

**TABLE 5
SCHOOLS WITH WRITTEN PROCEDURES FOR MANAGING INCIDENTS OF TOBACCO SMOKING, 2002/03**

Sector/type of school	Percentage of schools which have written procedures for managing incidents of tobacco smoking by:		Percentage of schools with access to health education co-ordinator
	Pupils	All other school users eg teachers, visitors	
2002/03			
Local authority schools			
Primary	54	79	88
Secondary	76	82	92
Special	65	81	92
Total	58	79	89
All other schools^{1,2}			
Primary	63	65	87
Secondary	74	63	95
Special	84	87	81
Total	71	68	89
All schools²			
Primary	55	78	88
Secondary	76	79	93
Special	69	82	89
Total	59	79	89
2001/02			
All schools²	51	73	87

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.

DRUG EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, 2002/03

TABLE 6: LOCAL AUTHORITY PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHICH PROVIDE DRUG EDUCATION AND THE TYPES OF DRUG EDUCATION INVOLVED, 2002/03

Local authority	Percentage of schools which provide drug education ¹	<i>Of those schools which provide drug education, the percentage of schools where¹</i>						Each pupil will receive drug education ²	Each pupil will receive drug educ. which provides progression and continuity ³	This drug education is in line with current national advice ⁴
		This drug education covers:					Controlled Drugs			
		Safe Use of Medicine	Alcohol	Tobacco	Solvents					
Scotland	100	99	100	100	99	99	98	97	95	
Aberdeen City	100	100	98	100	98	91	98	98	95	
Aberdeenshire	99	99	99	100	99	99	99	94	91	
Angus	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Argyll & Bute	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Clackmannanshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Dumfries & Galloway	100	99	100	100	99	99	100	98	97	
Dundee City	100	100	100	100	100	98	100	100	95	
East Ayrshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
East Dunbartonshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
East Lothian	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
East Renfrewshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Edinburgh, City of	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Eilean Siar	92	97	97	97	97	97	100	100	97	
Falkirk	100	96	98	100	96	98	94	92	90	
Fife	100	99	100	100	100	99	93	90	90	
Glasgow City	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Highland	98	98	99	100	96	97	91	84	80	
Inverclyde	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Midlothian	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	78	72	
Moray	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
North Ayrshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
North Lanarkshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Orkney Isles	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Perth & Kinross	100	100	100	100	100	99	99	99	99	
Renfrewshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Scottish Borders	100	100	100	100	97	92	100	99	96	
Shetland	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
South Ayrshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
South Lanarkshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Stirling	95	97	97	100	92	89	87	87	71	
West Dunbartonshire	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
West Lothian	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

1. Figures are rounded - 100% may be displayed in some cases where the actual figure is greater than or equal to 99.5%.

2. 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.

3. A school is defined as providing drug education to each pupil which provides 'progression and continuity in their learning as they move through the school' if every pupil would receive drug education at several stages during their time at a particular school.

4. A school which provides drug education in line with current national advice must cover all of the criteria (where appropriate) listed in the table (see Notes for details).

