FROM THE MINISTER/ÓN AIRE

AN ROINN
Oideachais
Department of
Education
MÄNNYSTRIE O
Lear
www.deni.gov.uk

SUB 229/2010

Tel: 9127 9618
Fax: 9127 9779
Dialling codes: 028 from north of Ireland
048 from south of Ireland

Chuig: Príomhoidí i ngach scoil dheontaschúnta

To: Principals of all grant-aided schools

2 Meitheamh 2010

2 June 2010

A Phríomhoide, a chara,

Dear Principal

Beidh tú eolach ar an chlúdach a thug na meáin le déanaí maidir leis an druga '*mephedrone*' agus go háirithe ar na hiarmhairtí tromchúiseacha a bhaineann lena úsáid. Tá a fhios agam go dtuigeann tú go maith an ról ríthábhachtach a imríonn scoileanna maidir le hoideachas a thabhairt do pháistí agus do dhaoine óga ar na hiarmhairtí a bhaineann le substaintí dleathacha agus mídhleathacha agus ar na hiarmhairtí tromchúiseacha a bhaineann le mí-úsáid agus tá mé buíoch as do chuid tacaíochta le dul i ngleic leis an cheist thábhachtach seo.

You will all be aware of the recent media coverage in relation to the drug 'mephedrone' and in particular of the serious consequences of its use. I know that you appreciate the vital role schools play in educating our children and young people on the effects of both legal and illegal substances and of the terrible consequences of misuse and I am grateful for your support in tackling this important issue.

Tá mé ag scríobh chugat lena chur in iúl duit gur aicmíodh *mephedrone* mar dhruga Aicme B, ón 16 Aibreán 2010 ar aghaidh. Is beart iontach sásúil é seo agus gheobhaidh tú sonraí ar an leathanach 'Latest Stuff' den láithreán gréasáin Talk to FRANK. Tá fáil ar bhileog eolais ar shiabhráin dhleathacha fosta ag – http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/campaign/legalhigh/Legal%20highs%20factsheet.pdf

I am writing to you to draw your attention that, as of 16 April 2010, mephedrone was classified as a Class B drug. This is a very welcome move and you will find details on the 'Latest Issues' page of Talk to FRANK website. A fact sheet on legal highs is also available at – http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/campaign/legalhigh/Legal%20highs%20factsheet.pdf

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
An Roinn Oideachais, Teach Ráth Giall, 43 Bóthar Bhaile Aodha, Ráth Giall, Beannchar, Co an Dúin BT19 7PR
Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Rathgill, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR
Männystrie o Lear, Rathgael Hoose, 43 Balloo Róad, Rathgill, Bang'r, Coontie Doon BT19 7PR

I dtéarmaí níos ginearálta áfach, tá sé tábhachtach go leanann scoileanna de bheith ag soláthar cláir éifeachtaigh oideachais ar dhrugaí agus go bhfreagraíonn siad do theagmhais agus do cheisteanna a thagann chun cinn. Mar sin de, ba mhaith liom a chur i gcuimhne duit go gcaithfí go bhfuil polasaí cothrom le dáta in aghaidh drugaí ag do scoil agus go moltar go láidir go n-ainmníonn tú ball sinsearach foirne le freagracht fhoriomlán as drugaí. Molaim duit d'aird a dhíriú ar Imlitir DE 2004/9 agus ar an treoir thacaíochta ó CCEA 'drugs: guidance for schools' http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/80-curriculum-and-assessment/80-curriculum-and-assessment-drugsguidance-pg.htm.) Ní léiríonn an treoir seo na hathruithe ar fad sa reachtaíocht a tugadh isteach ón bhliain 2004 agus i réimsí eile. Tá feidhm ag na prionsabail ghinearálta go fóill, áfach.

However, in more general terms, it is important that schools continue to deliver an effective drugs education programme and respond to incidents and emerging issues. Therefore I would like to remind you that your school must have an up to date drugs policy and that it is strongly recommended that you designate a senior member of staff as having overarching responsibility for drugs. I recommend that you refer to DE Circular 2004/9 and the supporting CCEA guidance 'drugs: guidance for schools' http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/80-curriculum-and-assessment/80-curriculum-and-assessment-drugsguidance-pg.htm.) This guidance does not reflect all the changes in legislation introduced since 2004 and in some other areas. However, the general principles are still valid.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a thabhairt duit as do chuid iarrachtaí ar fad go dtí seo maidir le hoideachas ar dhrugaí i scoileanna. Iarraim ort leanúint de bheith ag soláthar cláir éifeachtaigh oideachais ar dhrugaí trí choinneáil ar an eolas sa timpeallacht atá ag athrú.

I would like to thank you for your considerable efforts to date in relation to drugs education in schools. I urge you to continue to provide an effective drugs education programme by keeping up to date in this ever changing landscape.

Tá mé ag cur leis seo, liosta de láithreáin ghréasáin agus teagmhálaithe gutháin úsáideacha mar eolas duit.

I am attaching a list of useful websites and telephone contacts for your information.

Bheinn buíoch díot dá gcuirfeá do Bhord Gobharnóirí ar an eolas faoin litir seo.

I should be grateful if you would make your Board of Governors aware of this letter.

Is mise le meas

Caitríona Ruane

CAITRÍONA RUANE MLA

DRUGAÍ: MEABHRÚCHÁN DO SCOILEANNA – POINTÍ TAGARTHA AGUS TEAGMHÁLAITHE ÚSÁIDEACHA

An Roinn Oideachais
Imlitir DE 2004/09 (le nuashonrú)
http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/80-curriculum-and-assessment/80-curriculum-and-assessment-drugsguidance-pg.htm

An Roinn Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/show_publications?txtid=17069

Bileog Eolais ar Shiabhráin Dhleathacha

http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/campaign/legalhigh/Legal%20highs%20factsheet.pdf

Oifigigh Oideachais Drugaí agus Alcóil na mBord Oideachais agus Leabharlainne

Béal Feirste – Margaret Watson
02890 564000

An tOirthuaisceart – Pauline Baird
02894 482334

An tOirdheisceart – Kim Scott
02890 566407

An Deisceart – Eileen Donnelly
02837 512200
Mark Teggarty
02838 310920

An tIarthar – Carol McHugh
02871 382632

DRUGS: A REMINDER TO SCHOOLS – USEFUL REFERENCE POINTS AND CONTACTS

Department of Education
DE Circular 2004/09 (to be updated)
http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/80-curriculum-and-assessment/80-curriculum-and-assessment-drugsguidance-pg.htm

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/show_publications?txtid=17069

Legal Highs Factsheet

http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/campaign/legalhigh/Legal%20highs%20factsheet.pdf

Education and Library Boards Drugs a Education Officers

Belfast – Margaret Watson
02890 564000

North-Eastern – Pauline Baird
02894 482334

South-Eastern – Kim Scott
02890 566407

Southern – Eileen Donnelly
02837 512200
Mark Teggarty
02838 310920

Western – Carol McHugh
02871 382632

Eolas Ginearálta
(lena n-áirítear leasuithe ar an dlí)

http://www.talktofrank.com/

Uimhir Ghutháin Lifeline
0808 808 8000

Líne Chabhrach Drugaí
0800 77 66 00

General Information
(including changes in the law)

http://www.talktofrank.com/

Lifeline Telephone Number
0808 808 8000

Drugs Helpline
0800 77 66 00