

What is D.A.R.E.?

D.A.R.E. is a nationally recognized program that is targeted at elementary school children. It introduces them to the dangers of drugs and alcohol, along with exposing the youth to a positive interaction with law enforcement officials. This program has proved to be beneficial in improving relations with young adults as they grow up in their communities.

Contact Deputy Jeff McCarty or Sgt Jake Hutchings to find out if the D.A.R.E. program is available in your area.

D.A.R.E. TO RESIST DRUGS AND VIOLENCE

D.A.R.E. - Because we care.

They're our kids. Our future. Our legacy. And we all want the same thing for them-- the best. We want their futures to be bright, and secure, and healthy, and safe. And we want them to succeed. To join us in the worlds of business and commerce, law and medicine, manufacturing and selling, teaching and serving. That's why we care. About their ability to cope with the challenges of life in contemporary America. About their capacity to resist the negative influences around them, to focus instead on their strengths and their potential.

And that's why we support D.A.R.E.

D.A.R.E. - To believe in themselves.

D.A.R.E. A simple acronym with a big message. Drug Abuse Resistance Education. It's a crusade that works. D.A.R.E. teaches our children--from kindergarten through high school-- that popularity can be found in positive behavior, that belonging need not require them to abandon their values, that self-confidence and self-worth come from asserting themselves and resisting destructive temptations. D.A.R.E. teaches them not just that they should refuse drugs and alcohol, but how to do so.

D.A.R.E. gives our children the tools they need to build a better, fuller, more satisfying life. The program was created in 1983 as a joint venture of the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District. D.A.R.E. sends a highly trained police officer into fifth grade classrooms every week for 10 weeks to teach students how to refuse drugs and alcohol and resist violence. Assigned a "beat" in which they visit each school one day a week, D.A.R.E. officers reach hundreds of thousands of students every year.

The program follows a carefully structured curriculum, focusing on topics such as personal safety, drug use and misuse, consequences of behavior, resisting peer pressure, building self-esteem, assertiveness training, managing stress without drugs, media images of drug use, role models, and support systems. Separate components have been developed to introduce kindergarten through fourth grade students to the D.A.R.E. program and to follow-up in junior high and high school classrooms, spreading the D.A.R.E. message throughout the schools.

By getting the message from a street-wise police officer--one who's been out there, one who knows how drugs and alcohol can destroy lives--kids take that message seriously. And, by getting to kids when they're most vulnerable to social pressure--when they're 9, 10, and 11 years old or sooner--D.A.R.E.

D.A.R.E. - Because it works.

D.A.R.E. has been doing its job for nearly three decades. And it's succeeding. It's not a one-hour, once-a-year visit by a stranger. It's two-and-a-half months of straight talk and conversation, with someone who becomes a friend, a confidant, an ally. It leaves a lasting impression on kids and their families. And more.

In two studies, one by the Evaluation and Training Institute and another funded by the National Institute of Justice, a sample of students who had completed the D.A.R.E. curriculum shows:

- significantly less substance abuse, including cigarettes and alcohol;
- a sharp decrease in school vandalism and truancy;
- improved student work habits;
- reduced tension between ethnic groups;
- reduced gang activity;
- a more positive attitude toward police:
and
- better student rapport with teachers and school officials.

And now D.A.R.E. is working nationwide, even worldwide. For all our kids.