Drug Education Policy

Context
As a school community, we are committed to the health and wellbeing of our students, now and into the future. It is inevitable that as they develop, our students will be exposed to drug related issues so it is vital to provide them with knowledge and skills about the use of legal and illicit drugs that will enable them to make informed and wise choices, which will ultimately minimise the harm caused by drugs on themselves and the wider community.

Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to:

- Support the whole school approach to reducing drug use and associated harms
- Explain how our school will respond to a drug-related incident
- Provide support for students involved in unsanctioned drug use.
- Provide students with information to minimise the harm of drugs and to make informed choices

Guidelines

- Within the parameters of the law and DEECD advice, the Principal is responsible for the implementation of this policy. The Principal has the operational responsibility in relation to any drug related incident and is guided by this policy in reacting to any incident.
- All students will be provided with drug education prevention and intervention programs.
- Drug Education will form part of the Health program in classrooms and will be an ongoing program with age appropriate information available (Get Real Program).
- Parents and the wider school community will be involved in drug-related curriculum and wellbeing issues.
- The possession, use, distribution and selling of illicit drugs and unsanctioned licit drugs on school premises or at any function or activity organised by the school is prohibited.
- Any programs or policies will advocate a harm minimisation approach. Harm minimisation aims to improve health, social and economic outcomes for both the community and the individual and is designed to reduce drug related harm.
- The School Policy and Advisory Guide will be used to provide guidelines for staff dealing with drug related incidences.
- Any students or families identified as ‘at risk’ will have the appropriate action taken with the wellbeing of the student as a priority.

Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed as part of the regular 3 year cycle of reviews.

Draft Policy: 17th June 2013
Ratified:
Review: June 2016