



Drugs Policy

Policy Document Information

Policy Name:	Drug Policy
Author/Supervisor:	J. Prins/S. Webb
Compliance	
Board of Studies	Registered and Accredited Individual Non-government Schools (NSW) Manual May 2012 (incorporating changes from 2004 to 2012)
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	Commonwealth Schools Assistance Act 2008
Legislative requirements	NSW Education Act 1990
Other Policy/Procedures Relationships	Pastoral Care Policy
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1 Introduction

Harmful drug use (including, but not limited to so-called 'recreational drug use) in our society continues to be a major source of concern to its members and there is a clear demand for the issue to be broadly addressed. All governments recognise that there is a real need to provide a safe environment for young people, including school students and to address parents' concerns about the impact of drugs on their families. It is vital that Australia's young people, and those who work and interact with them, have the information, strategies and skills to prevent or reduce the harm that can arise from their own drug use and the drug use of others.

For school students, drug use may adversely affect not only their physical and emotional health but also their chances of maintaining a current and life-long connection with education, achieving their full potential academically and living fulfilled and well adjusted lives.

2 Appropriate Consequences

Therefore, the school views the harmful use of drugs as an extremely important matter. To this end, any student ***in possession of or using*** a prohibited drug at the school or at any school program or event, or while travelling to and from the school, ***may be summarily expelled from the school.***

3 Discretion of the Principal

However, at the discretion of the Principal, the school may seek to find remedies, other than outright expulsion. The Principal will be mindful of the following guidelines.

3.1 Tobacco

Any student in using or in possession of tobacco cigarettes at the school or any school program or event, or while travelling to and from the school, will receive a warning for their first offence and be suspended from the school for a subsequent offence. Further offences will result in the student being suspended from the school pending a review on future enrolment.

3.2 Possession of a prohibited drug

Any student in possession of a prohibited drug, at the school or any school program or event, or while travelling to or from the school, will be suspended from the school pending a review on future enrolment.

3.3 Use of a prohibited drug

Any student using a prohibited drug, at the school or any school program or event, or while travelling to or from the school, will be suspended from the school pending a review on future enrolment.

4 Other Guidelines

Notwithstanding any of the actions that may be taken by the Principal, all staff, parents and students are directed to Section 3.6 of the Managing Student Behaviour Policy which makes the following comments about Restorative Discipline.

Both in class situations and in personal contact students should be pointed to the sinful origins and nature of misconduct and to the need for radical change in the sinner that can be brought about only by the work of the Holy Spirit. Prayer with the student for forgiveness may be appropriate. Counselling may lead, with students who have on-going behavioural difficulties, to prayer for healing and correction of the root problem.

Teachers, individually and as a group, should remember the needs of their students in prayer.

Correction and discipline should always be restorative. It should be consistent with the school's task (directed towards protection and enhancement of the learning environment) and appropriate to the nature of the offence, if possible, restoring any damage to work, property or relationships.

If a student is disciplined students he or she should be encouraged to seek forgiveness and to make restitution and apologies where appropriate in order to restore normal relationships.