1. **RATIONALE**
Drug Education is a joint responsibility between school, home and the broader community. Drug Education will be provided at all levels of schooling and will include specific drug education curriculum as well as resilience education, problem solving skills and appropriate coping strategies. Drug education will be based on a harm minimisation approach.

2. **AIMS**
- To provide all students with a comprehensive, age-appropriate drug education curriculum.
- To ensure that drug education is embedded across all key learning areas.
- To underpin drug education with resilience education.

3. **IMPLEMENTATION**
- Teachers are responsible for planning and implementing the drug education program within the curriculum.
- Teachers consult the NSW Board of Studies PD/H/PE syllabuses when planning their units of work.
- Drug education covers the strands *Personal Health Choices*, *Safe Living*, and *Interpersonal Relationships*.
- Whilst preventative drug education is provided within the PD/H/PE Syllabus, planning occurs across all key learning areas, especially in the areas of Religious Education and Pastoral Care.
- Drug Education will include resilience education and will encompass problem-solving skills and appropriate coping strategies.
- Professional development will be provided to ensure staff feel confident in delivering drug education.
- The Diocesan Drug Education Adviser is available to inservice and advise staff when necessary, and is also the focal point for dissemination of information gathered from professional development courses to relevant school staff. Staff from the St Laurence Centre and appropriate community agencies are also available to assist schools.

4. **PROCEDURES**
- The staff members familiarise themselves with local community resources and support services, for example, the police, Neighbourhood Watch, the Diocesan Drug Education Adviser, the local community health centre and local councils.
- Staff members model appropriate safe behaviour to students, e.g. the storage and adminstering of medicines.
- Whilst at school-related activities, e.g. dances, excursions, camps, sporting activities and retreats, staff members and other supervising adults abstain from smoking and the consumption of alcohol.
- In the event of a drug offence that may require the suspension or expulsion of a student, refer to the procedures in the Diocesan Pastoral Care Policy 2003, page 3: Implementation - *Immediate Suspension*.

4. **BUDGET**
An appropriate budget will be set aside to ensure the effectiveness of this policy.

5. **EVALUATION**
This policy will be reviewed every three years or as required by CSO or Board of Studies amendments.