



DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

FEBRUARY 2017

1. PURPOSE

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

2. POLICY STATEMENT

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.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all students, staff members and parents at St Patrick's.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- i. Drug education covers the Personal Development / Health strands *Personal Health Choices, Safe Living and Interpersonal Relationships*.
- ii. 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.
- iii. Drug education will include resilience education and will encompass problem-solving skills and appropriate coping strategies.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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*.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

- i. Teachers are responsible for planning and implementing the drug education program within the curriculum.
- ii. Teachers consult the NSW BOSTES PD/H/PE syllabus when planning their units of work.
- iii. Teachers must familiarise themselves with local community resources and support services, e.g. the police, Neighbourhood Watch, the Diocesan Drug Education Adviser, Life Education, the local community health centre and the local council.
- iv. Staff members model appropriate safe behaviour to students, e.g. the storage and administering of medicines.
- v. 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.

6. BUDGET

The school will make provision each year in its annual budget for professional development opportunities for the staff in regard to this area.

7. NEXT REVIEW DATE

This policy will be reviewed in 2020 in consultation with relevant staff.

8. DEFINITIONS

- i. BOSTES: Board of Studies Teaching and Educational Standards.

9. LEGISLATIVE / PROFESSIONAL GUIDELINES

- i. Personal Development, Health and Physical Education syllabus, BOSTES.
- ii. School-based scope and sequence for Personal Development, Health and Physical Education.