



DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

PURPOSE:

To ensure that all students are safe and supported in the school community and that they develop appropriate skills and knowledge to minimise drug-related harm.

BROAD GUIDELINES:

Developing and maintaining a health-promoting environment enhances the emotional, physical and social health of all students.

Issues regarding drug use and drug misuse will impact on this school as they do in the wider community. The school accepts the need for a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to drug education.

The possession, use, selling and distribution of substances such as tobacco, alcohol, inhalants, inappropriately used prescription drugs and illicit drugs at school constitute a health and safety risk and breach of school rules.

Strenuous effort will be made to maintain an appropriate management plan students involved in drug-related incidents.

Drug education is a shared responsibility between home, school and the community.

IMPLEMENTATION:

In order to promote and develop protective factors and reduce risk factors the school will:

- Implement a whole-school approach to health and health education.
- Follow a planned and consistent approach to drug-related incidents.
- Provide an accurate and meaningful curriculum about drugs.
- Implement the school's anti-bullying policy.
- Support the primary to secondary school transition program.
- Support and implement the school's Individual School Drug Education Strategy.

All staff are responsible for identifying, monitoring and reporting to the Principal the behaviour of a student who is believed to be at risk from their own or other's drug use.

When a drug-related issue arises, the first concern will be the safety, health and well-being of those involved. Staff will take account of the drug(s) involved, the circumstances and nature of the incident, and the likely effects of any consequences. Referral practices will be clarified and communicated to staff and parents, when necessary, by the Principal. Appropriate personnel will carry out welfare and discipline procedures as required.

Staff will be encouraged to participate in professional development so that they feel more confident in teaching a drug education program that focuses on harm minimisation.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

Colac P.S. Individual School Drug Education Strategy

Colac Primary School Code of Conduct

Anti-bullying Policy

First Aid and Medicines Procedures (as attached)

Managing Drug Related Incidents (as attached)

Ratified August 2016

Review August 2019
