



DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

Rationale:

The use of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and pharmaceutical drugs is common in our society. Our students are exposed to drug related issues at home, school and in the wider community. Harm minimisation is the underlying principle of our drug education programs, therefore appropriate harm minimisation skills and knowledge will be taught, with a high priority being given to student welfare – emotional, physical and social health.

This policy provides a framework to address alcohol, tobacco and other drug related problems in a caring and consistent manner within the Narre Warren South P-12 College.

The policy and the procedures contained within it conform to legislative requirements and current educational initiatives.

Objectives:

- To provide drug education within the on-going health education program and other relevant personal development programs.
- To incorporate and increase student awareness of the harm minimisation approach through the curriculum
- To be able to identify students at risk and provide relevant referral for counselling services with the school context and school related agencies.

Guidelines:

- All curriculum will be in line with DEECD policy.
- Teachers will foster a supportive and caring environment for students through strategies outlined in the other school welfare policies.
- Drug education is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community, with an aim to provide an environment which fosters valuing of self and others.
- Health Education Programs will be implemented and developmentally aligned within the curriculum across the college.
- Teaching strategies and programs will focus specifically on enhancing the resilience of young people. This will be addressed via the teaching of relevant thinking and social skills to give students an understanding of drug use/misuse and to provide alternative choices and enabling them to make responsible independent decisions.
- The Principal and nominee/s shall take the appropriate actions in response to drug-related incidents

Evaluation:

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed as part of the College's four year review cycle.