



# Wyndham's International High School

**POLICY: ..... DRUG EDUCATION**

**STATUS: ..... COLLEGE COUNCIL ENDORSED**

**DATE:..... 22 July 2014**

**WERRIBEE SECONDARY COLLEGE**

## **VISION**

At Werribee Secondary College we believe that drug education is integral to the well-being of our students. We aim to provide a safe and supportive environment and to engage the whole-school community in our drug education initiatives. The College is committed to providing our students with drug education and necessary related intervention across all year levels.

## **COMMITMENT**

Werribee Secondary College's drug education policy is a response to the State Government initiative established to address the social problem of drug abuse. It is based on the belief that Werribee Secondary College can act to prevent, intervene and provide sanctions in regards to drug abuse.

Werribee Secondary College annually review their own 'Drug Education Strategy' which confronts the issue through education, in partnership with the College Community and other responsible agencies. All actions taken in regards to drug abuse will be consistent with State and Federal laws.

## **PREVENTION AND HARM MINIMISATION GOALS**

Werribee Secondary College strives to adopt both a prevention and a harm minimisation approach which is designed to have an impact in reducing negative effects of drug use.

Desired outcomes include:

- Abstinence from and prevention of drug abuse
- Reduction of the harmful consequences of drug use for the community
- Reduced and responsible use of drugs
- Awareness of the safe administration of drugs

## **CURRICULUM AND IMPLEMENTATION**

Werribee Secondary College Administration supports staff to deliver appropriate drug education by allowing in-school time for planning, providing professional development opportunities for staff and allocating funds for resources and materials.

All members of the College Community have a responsibility to discourage the use of all drugs detrimental to health and wellbeing.

The College will provide ongoing student skill development by developing their knowledge, resilience, attitudes, values and promote help-seeking behaviour.

Parents are able to obtain specific support material and guidelines through the College PORTAL / Extranet, internal drug information workshops and the College newsletter.

### **The Drug Education Curriculum will:**

- Acknowledge that many people will use drugs, including tobacco and alcohol at some stage
- Provide knowledge to make informed decisions about drug use to minimise any harmful effects
- Examine the law pertaining to drugs
- Discourage the use of all drugs which are detrimental to health and wellbeing
- Develop skills to help oneself and others
- Explore local and national responses to drug use

Please note: The College should be notified by the parent about any prescribed medication to be taken on College premises.

## **INTERVENTION**

Werribee Secondary College's intervention procedure is required to address the incidence of drug use in a way which is in the best interest of the College community, whilst conforming to legal requirements.

Werribee Secondary College does not permit students while in the college or undertaking college activities to;

- Smoke
- Consume alcohol or excessive amounts of caffeinated energy drinks
- Deliberately inhale solvents
- Possess drug related equipment (unless prescribed for medical reasons and with knowledge of the Werribee Secondary College staff)
- Possess or be under the influence of illicit drugs
- Be under the influence of prescription drugs, except for medical reasons known to Werribee Secondary College staff.

## **COLLEGE ACTION AND CONSEQUENCES**

Staff, becoming aware of student use, possession or intentions to supply drugs will immediately inform College Administration (Principal Class or Year Level Co-ordinators) who will notify parents/guardians as soon as possible and refer to support agencies or appropriate authorities.

Smoking: Inform parents/ guardians, prior to suspension.

Alcohol / Solvents / Inappropriate use of medication:

Students found under the influence of, using, being in possession of or supplying any of the above in any College situation will be subject to a range of actions which, after informing parents/ guardians may include the following; counselling, suspension, being sent home from camps/excursions, referral to an outside agency, notifying of Police or expulsion.

Illegal Drugs: Possessing or being 'under the influence' of illegal drugs is an offence and is against the law. Parents / Guardians will be notified and police may be informed. For students found supplying illegal drugs, parents will be informed, the police notified and the student may be expelled.

**These sanctions apply within the school premises, at all College functions, and includes travel to and from these venues.**