Drug Education Policy

**Rationale**

Woree State High School aims to create an environment:
- Where students participate in a range of learning experiences about drugs and drug use within the context of harm minimization (refer CRP-PR-005: Drug Education and Intervention in Schools).
- Where refusal of harmful or illegal drugs is promoted.
- Where drug use as authorized by a medical practitioner occurs in controlled circumstances.
- Where the global outcomes of the school are reflected in the implementation of the drug education policy.

The school discourages all drug use that is detrimental to the health and well-being of students and which is not authorized by medical practitioners. Through this document, the goal is to reduce the harmful and/or inappropriate use of drugs by managing incidents in a positive and supportive manner in the best interests of students, staff, parents and other parties concerned.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to clearly outline the Drug Education Policy.

**Relevance to Related Legislation and Department of Education Policy**

**LEGISLATION**
- Education (General Provisions) Act 2006
- Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2006
- Drugs Misuse Act 1986
- Anti-Discrimination Act 1991
- Judicial Review Act 1991
- Juvenile Justice Act 1992
- Freedom of Information Act 1992

**RELEVANT POLICY**
- SMS-PR-021: Safe, Supportive and Disciplined School Environment
- HLS-PR-001: Creating Smoke-Free Environment
- GVR-PR-001: Police Interviews and Police or Staff Searches at State Educational Institutions
- Supporting Student Health and Well Being Policy Statement
- Administration of Medicines in Schools Procedures
- Principles for School Drug Education

**Operation of the Policy**

This policy applies to all students under the school's jurisdiction. The school's jurisdiction is defined as the school premises, school camps, excursions, activities associated with the school such as school dances, camps and dramatic productions, or any other activity where the staff assume responsibility. It also refers to students traveling to and from school, or when they are in school uniform, and as such, representing the school.
DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

Woree State High School’s drug education policy reflects the school’s Global Outcomes and endeavours to provide an environment where students are safe and will understand the implications of drugs use and misuse within a context of harm minimization.

Woree State High School provides students with learning experiences focusing on drug issues.

Key outcomes of our drug education program are to have students who:
- are informed about drug issues which are developmentally appropriate to their year level
- understand the possible consequences of drug use
- have a range of strategies and protective behaviours aimed at minimizing harms both to themselves and others.

Woree State High School acknowledges that drug education is a shared responsibility between home school and the community. Parent participation is welcomed in the development of policy documents and curriculum development.

Drug Education at Woree State High School is underpinned by the Principles of Drug Education in Schools (Ballard, Gillespie and Irwin, 1994)

AUTHORISED DRUG USE AT WOREE STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Prescribed or medicinal drug use Students who use prescribed or medicinal drugs within school jurisdiction must have written approval from a parent or guardian. Medication must be presented at the office in a clearly marked container that states the student’s name, dose and the times at which it should be given. If the medication requires refrigeration, this must also be clearly specified. Students at the Special Education Unit follow the above guidelines with medication being presented to the S.E.U. administrator rather than the general office. Protocols of the S.E.U. will be adhered to at all times.

*Times at which doses are received should be recorded and counter-signed by the student.*

Asthma medication Authorisation to use asthma medication should be received in writing from parents. Asthmatic students who are required to carry medication with them are permitted to do so.

*Where parents wish to provide a nebuliser at school, they should negotiate with the school as to who will assist with the use of the pump and its maintenance. They will also need to provide an asthma medication plan as prepared by their child’s doctor.*

Analgesics When a student at Woree State High School complains of a headache or other similar pain, the school will *not* administer paracetamol and parents will be contacted.

Other substances Students at Woree State High School are not permitted to use any drug or to be under the influence of a drug substance apart from those listed above. Students should not bring any analgesics, vitamins or any other such preparations to school. *Tobacco, alcohol, inhalants and illegal/unsanctioned drugs are prohibited.*

MANAGEMENT OF A DRUG RELATED INCIDENT

See Flowchart – Management of a Drug Related Incident

NOTE: Any inquiries from the media will be directed to the Principal.

CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG-RELATED INCIDENTS FOR STUDENTS

See Flowchart – Consequences of a Drug Related Incident

The suggested consequences should be considered in the context of the student’s whole life, family situation, mental and emotional health, intellectual ability and degree to which they may have been in control of their actions and decisions.
COUNSELLING/REFERRAL

Woree State High School has identified the following community organisations as being useful contacts for student support. These agencies are able to provide assistance, in a supportive and confidential manner, to students who have been identified as “at risk” with regard to drug related problems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child and Youth Mental Health Services</td>
<td>130 Mcleod Street, Cairns</td>
<td>4226 3400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATODS)</td>
<td>31 Shields Street, Cairns</td>
<td>4226 3900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Link</td>
<td>305 Severin Street, Parramatta Park</td>
<td>4031 6179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Empowerment Towards Independence (YETI)</td>
<td>258 Draper Street, Cairns</td>
<td>4051 4927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu Chopperen Medical Services</td>
<td>13 Moignard Street, Manoora</td>
<td><a href="http://www.yeti@net.au">www.yeti@net.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addiction Help Agency</td>
<td>211 Lyons Street, Cairns</td>
<td>4051 6262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headspace Cairns (Cnr Spence &amp; Grafton Streets)</td>
<td>2nd Floor 45 Spence Street, Cairns</td>
<td>4041 3780</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES TEAM are available within the school:

- Community Education Counsellor
- Guidance Officer
- School Based Police Officer
- School Based Youth Health Nurse
- School Chaplain
- Youth Support Co-Coordinators

Note 1: Some situations may be effectively addressed by developing strategies cooperatively with the students.

Note 2: The involvement of Police may be necessary in some of the situations listed below, even when not specifically indicated, if there is a real possibility of harm to others or to property, or there is associated unlawful activity, such as theft or drink/drug driving.

Documentation

a) 2019-2022 Woree State High School Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students
b) FLOWCHART – Management of a Drug Related Incident
c) FLOWCHART – Consequences of a Drug Related Incident

Online Resources

- Principles for school drug education
- Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs website
- Australian Health Promoting Schools Association
- Australian Drug Foundation
Purpose: To outline the management steps should a drug related incident occur

Management of a Drug Related Incident

Substance found with consumed by student(s) or evidence of both

- YES
  - Establish the health status of the student(s)
  - Refer student to "Sick Bay" for monitoring
  - Report incident to HOD S&O or Executive

- NO
  - Student admits to substance & type
    - YES
      - Teacher completes incident report immediately
    - NO
      - HOD S&O or Executive establishes who & what substance is involved

- Review Responsible Behavior Plan for Student

- Executive decides if District Office is to be notified

- Parent advises HOD S&O or Executive of what substance was involved

- District Office notifies of Executive decision

- Whole school community informed of response to media (if necessary)

- Staff advised of proposed school response

- Referral to government / non-government agency
Consequences of a Drug Related Incident

Purpose: To outline the possible consequences for a drug related incident under the school's jurisdiction.

Knowledge of drug related activities at school not communicated to teachers or Executive Team.

- Counselling by HOD S4S or Executive Referral to SSS Team Parents notified One School Incident report

Involvement via participation in activity, in the presence of others using or supplying.

- Repeated smoking tobacco
  - Referral to parents One School Incident report
  - 1-10 SDA
  - Health Information

Requesting, supply of an illicit substance from another student. Request not fulfilled.

- Supplying alcohol
  - Health Information
  - Referral to parents 1-10 SDA
  - 11-20 SDA
  - Counselling by SSS Team

Smoking tobacco - first offence

- Using Alcohol
  - Health warning Illegality warning by SBPO
  - Referral to parents 1-10 SDA
  - 11-20 SDA
  - Counselling by SSS Team
  - Referral to external agency

Repeated offence?

In possession of or using an illicit substance

- Sale or supply of illicit substance
  - Referral to SBPO
    - Parents notified
    - 1-10 SDA
  - 11-20 SDA
  - Recommend to exclude
  - Referral to external agency

No further action required
Accept the opportunity of a lifetime at a great Cairns school where “every student counts”