

TENISON WOODS COLLEGE

SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY

SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY reviewed by:			
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POLICY TO BE REVIEWED BY (person/role):		Review Date:	2024

SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY



Rationale

At Tenison Woods College we aim to educate our students in all dimensions of life so that students are thoroughly prepared for entry into an increasingly complex and ever changing world. All members of the college community are committed to ensuring a safe, caring school environment, which promotes personal growth and positive self-esteem and in which the dignity of the individual is nurtured and respected.

This policy applies to all members of the school community, including teachers, students, sport coaches, instructors, parents, ancillary staff, voluntary workers and student teachers.

Definition

A drug is any substance which, when taken into the body, alters its function physically or psychologically. The term 'drug' is used generically to include tobacco, alcohol, pharmaceutical drugs and illicit drugs (*National School Drug Education Strategy 1999*).

This Substance Misuse Policy is divided into four components: Education, Prevention, Intervention and Consequences.

Education

For substance misuse education to be meaningful, there needs to be a whole school approach within a safe supportive environment. To this end Tenison Woods College will provide their students with drug education within the framework of the National School Drug Education Strategy. This includes:

- A whole school drug education program involving students from Reception to Year 12.
- Drug education that is based on the development of the student's ability to make informed and free choices.
- Drug education that reflects a positive and preventive approach and harm reduction strategies which takes care not to normalise inappropriate drug use.
- Programs will be developed in such a way that they take into account the environment of the students, the attitude of the local community towards the use of various drugs, and the reasons why students may be likely to use drugs.
- The methodology of drug education will be up to date, and will ensure that the content and strategies are likely to influence behaviour and that the skills acquired can be used beyond the classroom.

Prevention

In conjunction with preventive programs, Tenison Woods College recognises their responsibility to model best practice among staff and assist in educating parents in the provision of a safe environment for the students.

Substance misuse prevention programs will include activities designed to:

- Support non-users in their efforts to preclude or delay the initiation of use;
- Prevent or delay progression from experimental, infrequent use to the regular use of any drugs; and
- Prevent or delay the expansion of use to other psychoactive substances not previously used by individuals.

Intervention

Intervention is intended to prevent further deterioration in the health of those using drugs inappropriately, by timely referral. Intervention procedures are based on the concern for the care of the individual and the protection of all involved.

Successful intervention strategies will require:

- education of staff to assist them to recognise signs of possible drug use;
- establishment of appropriate referral information and procedures; and
- establishment and dissemination of procedures for dealing with drug use.

While attending Tenison Woods College or any College function students are not allowed to:

- Smoke or vape tobacco or other substances/drugs;
- Drink alcoholic beverages;
- Use prohibited drugs;
- Inappropriately use prescribed or over-the-counter medicines;
- Inappropriately use solvents/inhalants;
- Possess illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco; or
- Possess drug-related objects.

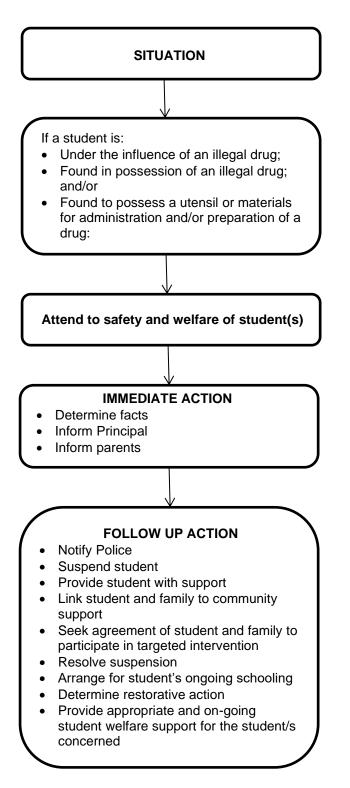
The possession, sale, supply, exchange or negotiation in relation to any of the above is also prohibited.

Consequences

For procedures and consequences for dealing with students who are involved with both legal and illegal substances see attached flow charts.



PROCEDURES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR DEALING WITH STUDENTS INVOLVED WITH ILLICIT DRUGS





PROCEDURES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR DEALING WITH STUDENTS INVOLVED WITH LEGAL DRUGS

