



# Aberfoyle Park High School

## Drug and Alcohol Intervention Policy

### Scope

This policy has been implemented by the school in consultation with staff, students and the governing council and in line with the Department for Education's alcohol, tobacco and other drugs incident management procedure and [Behaviour Support Policy](#) and Search and Seizure Policy. This policy provides direction to students, staff, and families in preventing alcohol, vaping, tobacco and drug use within our school community.

### Staff will implement the policy under the following circumstances:

#### Where:

- within the school boundaries
- at school activities authorised by the Principal, e.g. school formal, camps, sports practices and excursions
- travelling to and from school and when leaving from school grounds during school hours

#### What substances:

- Tobacco and other nicotine products, including E-Cigarettes and vaping instruments
- Alcoholic drinks, beverages and products.
- Prohibited substances listed in the Controlled Substances Act or relevant regulations, such as Marijuana or its Derivatives
- Inappropriate use of prescribed or over the counter drugs
- Inappropriate use of solvents or other chemical agents
- Possession of drug-related objects such as syringes, pipes, bongs and vapes.

### The consequences outlined in this policy will apply to any student who:

- Engages in the sale, supply, or administration of substances, or takes part in a sale, supply, or administration of any drug. This includes alcohol which becomes illicit in a school setting.
- Is in possession of any item defined in the above for the purpose of sale, supply or administration of the drug or substance.

## Rationale

Aberfoyle Park High School is committed to maintaining a safe, secure and supportive environment for our community and recognises that student wellbeing and engagement in learning is a strong protective factor against drug-related and other risk taking behaviour for young people.

The role of alcohol and drugs in society, and the use of drugs by students is inappropriate. The responses and consequences for the breach of school expectations in relation to drug and alcohol use are consistent with Harm

Minimisation as outlined in the National Drug Strategy and meet the requirements of Department for Education policies and procedures pertaining to alcohol and other drugs.

Alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use by young people is associated with risks to wellbeing, including risky behaviour, mental health issues and criminal activities. It can interrupt learning, have negative developmental impacts, and cause social, emotional, financial and health problems that continue into adulthood.

## Analgesics and other medications

The management of medications will be guided by the Department for Education “Health Support Guidelines”

- Analgesics: no analgesics such as Panadol, Paracetamol and Aspirin, should be given to students by school personnel
- Other medications: When students are taking prescribed medication the amount carried should only be that sufficient for the dosage required for the time spent at school on that day. Supporting information may be sought from a medical practitioner.
- For the safety of all students, no other medication shall be carried by students with the exception of asthma inhalers, unless approval has been given. Requests to carry any medication for emergency purposes such as antihistamines and epi-pens, must be made to the Principal/Delegate in writing and may require supporting information from a medical practitioner.

## Procedure

Any student suspected of being under the influence of a drug:

At school and is:

- Able to be moved, should be treated as sick and asked to report to the sickroom. Normal sick room procedures will then apply in conjunction with policies set out in this document. The health and safety of such students will be of paramount importance. If a student is considered to be affected by a drug, their parents/caregivers will be informed and the student will be sent home.
- Not able to be moved; should be treated with standard ABC First Aid techniques and the first aid staff urgently notified to assess the need for an ambulance.
- An initial urgent report will be prepared to outline *What, Where, Who and Why* as it will be required if an ambulance is called.
- Any tablets or substances found at the time should be taken by a staff member to the sickroom.
- Any vomit should be collected using a plastic sick bag. It should be transported by a staff member to the sickroom and/or the ambulance if necessary.
- On a school excursion or activity, any suspected student should be treated as far as practical from the group in the same way as at school. The Principal/Delegate should be notified as soon as possible
- A detailed report may be required by the Principal/Delegate as soon as practical.

## Searches

Students' bags and lockers should be made available to a member of the executive team. If school staff have reasonable suspicion, including information based on facts, that a student is in possession of illicit substances, and that a search is necessary, the following procedures should apply:

- Accompany the student, together with the student's school bag, to a safe place such as a Leader's office
- Phone the police and request police attendance
- Have a second staff member present until the police attend
- Ensure that one staff member is of the same gender as the student present

- Inform parents or caregivers if the student is under 18 years of age
- Seek the cooperation of parents or caregivers if the student is under 18 years of age
- Ask a police officer to search a school bag or locker. In the instance that SAPOL cannot attend, two members of leadership will undertake a bag search.
- Under no circumstances are school staff to conduct a search of the clothing a student is wearing. Students can be asked to take their shoes off, turn their pockets inside out and/or remove a jacket.
- All students have the right to justice and equality as well as the right to be treated with dignity

## Supporting information

The following telephone numbers and websites can provide support and useful information.

- Quit Helpline: 13 78 48
- Your local GP
- DfE Parent helpline: 1800 222 696
- Child and Youth Parent Helpline 1300 364 100
- Alcohol and Drug Information Service 1300 13 1340
- South Australian Police – You can attend your local police station to make a police report
- [Encounter Youth](#)
- The National Drug Strategy 2017-2026: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/national-drug-strategy-2017-2026>

Further information can be found on the school's website in relation to relevant policies:

- Positive Behaviour Support Policy

## Intervention strategies

A variety of intervention strategies are in place to reduce the number of incidents and to assist the response process including:

### Proactive Intervention Strategies:

We recognise the importance of proactive activities including school curriculum, Wellbeing for Learning (WBfL) program, working with parents and the local community. These protective factors and strategies are based upon research evidence and best practice and include:

- Drug education is explicitly taught as part of a developmentally appropriate curriculum in the Health and Physical Education learning area, through the Australian Curriculum year 7 to year 10
- The Australian Government/Uni of Sydney 'Positive Choices' website is a key resource to refer to for curriculum: <http://positivechoices.org.au/>
- Provide parent resources such as School TV, and DfE fact sheets about how to address vaping and drug use
- Provide relevant professional learning opportunities for all staff
- Partnerships with parents and community agencies to assist our school to address drug issues continue to be actively fostered
- Delivery of Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum, SHINE SA and Restorative Practices at a whole school level
- Wellbeing for Learning presentations, including guest speakers such as Encounter Youth and SAPOL present to our senior school students

### **Reactive intervention strategies:**

- Provide counselling service and/or wellbeing support to students involved in drug or substance use
- Referral to support services such as the Department for Education Wellbeing Practitioner, the Department for Education behaviour coach, CAMHS, Centacare, Reconnect, Re-engage, external agencies and health providers
- Regular communication with students and families about situations that arise at school
- All consequences will be negotiated as appropriate to the *individual* student as well as considering the impact of the student's behaviour upon the school community and in accordance with Positive Behaviour Support Policy.

### **Communication and review**

- This policy has consulted through Student Voice, staff and the Governing Council
- The policy will be accessible on the school website
- Policy to be reviewed in Term 3, 2025 and each year thereafter