

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

## AIMS OF THIS POLICY

The policy aims to:

1. maintain a health-promoting school environment in which the welfare of all school community members is of importance;
2. identify the role of the Denmark Senior High School community in the prevention of drug-related problems
3. document the school community's agreed position on, and accepted procedures for, dealing with drug-related incidents and problems.

## PREVENTION & EDUCATION

The following are actions/programs in place at Denmark Senior High School:

- Drug education and harm reduction within the school curriculum.
- Provision of counselling on an individual basis through the student services team.
- Liaison with local police and other relevant community groups.
- Continue involvement in the School Drug Education Project.
- Invitation for parents to be involved in the education process and engage in forums.
- Raise staff awareness of drug issues and identification.
- Review of Substance Abuse Policy annually.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Any person entering the school premises or attending a school function (inclusive of camps and excursions) is **NOT** permitted to:

- smoke or supply tobacco products to others.
- consume or supply alcoholic beverages to others.
- deliberately inhale solvents (eg: petroleum products, glues, paint) or provide them to others
- possess drug related equipment such as syringes, bongs, pipes (misuse of Drug Act 1981) or supply them to others except in cases of lawful medical use.
- consume or supply prescription type drugs without a doctor's approval. The Administration Staff **must** be notified if students need to administer prescribed medications while at school.
- possess, use or supply to others harmful or unlawful substances.

## **SMOKING**

Where a student is:

- found smoking
- found with cigarettes or unlawful substances: and/or in the company of smokers

The Principal will notify parents/caregivers by phone. Students will be provided with counselling and face disciplinary action.

## **ALCOHOL AND SOLVENTS**

Where a student is:

- found in possession of alcohol
- deliberately inhaling solvents
- intoxicated at school
- in the company of a student drinking alcohol or deliberately inhaling solvents

The Principal will notify parents/caregivers by phone. Students will be provided with counselling and face disciplinary action.

Intoxicated students will receive immediate first aid and be sent home with parent/guardian or placed in responsible care. Police will be contacted.

## **ILLICIT DRUGS**

Where a student is:

- ❖ caught in possession of an illicit drug
- ❖ in the company of someone using illicit drugs
- ❖ under the influence of an illicit drug

Parent/caregivers will be informed as soon as possible and the Police will be called. In the absence of student's parent or carer, the Deputy Principal will be present during any police interview. The student will be provided with counselling and face disciplinary action.

## Responding to Incidents Action Process

A Student who:

- Appears to be under the influence of a drug;
- Possesses drugs or equipment; or
- Supplies and receives drugs or equipment

Teacher will accompany student(s) to relevant Administration Staff with bag.

### ACTION

1. Parent/Carer contacted.
2. Relevant Year Leader notified.
3. Parent/Admin interview where appropriate.
4. \*Relevant disciplinary action.
5. Incident(s) recorded.

Where illicit drugs are being taken, relevant disciplinary action will include:

- ❖ Suspension
- ❖ Police contact.
- ❖ Counselling.
- ❖ In-school detention.

\* Substances will be removed from the offender(s) and arrangements made to deliver them into custody of parent/guardian, or in the case of unlawful substances, the police.

In all circumstances the primary concern is the health and welfare of all students and all school staff.

### USEFUL CONTACTS

Principal, Deputy Principal & Year Leaders Ph: **9848 0100**  
Community Drug Service Team Ph: **9842 8008** Fax: **9842 8719**  
Alcohol & Drug Information Service Ph: **9442 5000**  
Parent Drug Information Service Ph: **9442 5050**

*Students need to be aware that if they are with other students who are breaking the Substance Abuse Policy that they will face disciplinary action.*