

Altona Green Primary School Drug Education Policy

Altona Green Primary School aims to create an environment:

- where students are educated about drugs and drug issues
- where refusal of illegal or harmful drugs is promoted
- where authorised drug use takes place in controlled circumstances.

The school discourages all drug use that is detrimental to the health and well-being of students and that is not authorised by parents or medical authorities.

The 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 socials and dramatic productions, or any other activity where school staff assume responsibility. It also refers to students on their way to and from school, or when they are in school uniform and are representing the image of the school.

The school has an integrated health and physical education curriculum. Students are encouraged to develop skills in decision making, to value themselves and others, to be self-reliant, to take responsibility for their actions, to have a healthy lifestyle, to be safe and to understand the implications of drug use and misuse.

It is a major role of the school to educate children about drug issues. The aim is to ensure students are informed about drugs and related issues; that they understand the possible consequences of drug use; and that they are informed about safety and first-aid strategies in order to reduce the possibility of harm to themselves and to others in the community.

The school adopts a preventative Harm Minimisation approach towards education about drugs. It is this approach that will foster the development of resilient young people.

Drug education is a shared responsibility between home, school and the community. Parent participation is welcomed in the formation of policy documents and curriculum development.

Drug issues are addressed within the following learning areas:

Preps: Staying Healthy and Safe

Juniors: Food, Families and Festivals

Middles: Healthy Communities

Seniors: Myself and Others

The school offers the Life Education program on a biannual basis to reinforce its Drug Education program.

Key resources for drug education include *Primary Steps, Get Real, Get Wise*.

The co-ordination of the Drug Education program is The Welfare Co-ordinator.

If parents have any queries or concerns about Drug Education lessons, these should be addressed to The Principal or Assistant Principal.

Endorsed by School Council November 2002