



# ALCOHOL AND DRUGS POLICY

## College Commitment

Mt St Patrick College is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of staff and students through promoting the school as an alcohol and drug free environment for safe work and learning. This school aims to support community programs which promote informed choices about the use of alcohol and drugs.

## Policy Management

The College Leadership and Management Teams will ensure that:

- legal requirements to protect the health of staff and students with respect to the use of alcohol and drugs are complied with
- information is provided to all staff and students about the school Policy Statement and regulations concerning the use of alcohol and drugs on school premises or while involved in off campus school activities
- links are maintained with community-based organisations and authorities which have programs relating to alcohol and drug use
- there is a designated area and nominated person (Assistant Principal) to contact if a person is in need of treatment as a result of alcohol or drug use while on school premises
- instances of alcohol or drug use by staff or students while on school activities, whether in school or outside, will be reported to the Principal and officially recorded
- students and staff who are reported as having been influenced by alcohol or drugs while on a school activity will be counselled as to the problem they have presented
- before any matter is reported to police for investigation, the matter will be appropriately investigated internally by the Principal or nominated persons
- the parents of a student who has breached the Policy Statement on alcohol and drug use will be contacted by the school
- staff will be provided with information about the behaviour of persons who have taken alcohol or drugs so that they may recognise such signs if they are presented discarded syringes found on school premises will be disposed of safely and appropriately.

## College Leadership's Commitment

The Principal and Leadership Team are responsible for ensuring that:

- the objectives of this Policy Statement are integrated into practice
- communication on health and safety matters related to alcohol and drugs is promoted
- effective action is taken to ensure health and safety related to alcohol and drug use by students and staff

## Staff Commitment

Staff are responsible for:

- taking prompt action to secure or isolate any hazardous situation relating to alcohol and drugs which comes to their notice, and which is within their capacity to safely remedy in order to protect themselves, students and others.

The drinking and/or possession of alcohol in any form is strictly prohibited at the College. Possession of alcohol at the College, consumption of alcohol at, or prior to any College function, or being under the influence of alcohol whilst at a College function will be met with severe consequences. These offences incur an immediate automatic suspension, the duration of which will be determined by the circumstances. **In some circumstances a student may be asked to leave the College.** (Refer to the Termination of Enrolment Policy).

Under no circumstances whatsoever will the use or possession of illegal drugs of any kind, in any form, be permitted at Mt St Patrick College. Possession and/or use of any illegal drugs is **absolutely prohibited**. This includes attending the College or College events under the influence of illegal drugs or using illegal drugs in College uniform outside the College. The police will be informed and the matter handed over to them for investigation. Students who disobey this rule will face severe consequences. These offences incur an immediate automatic suspension, until an interview with the Principal is arranged. **A student will be asked to leave the College at the discretion of the Principal, in consultation with the Parish Priest and the Catholic Schools Office, as this behaviour is regarded by the College as serious misconduct.** (Refer to the Termination of Enrolment Policy).

**Retrospectivity:**

Students who have information presented to the school about their misuse of alcohol and/or drugs that has sufficient support/evidence will in turn be punished more severely than the people who owned up at the time.

**Consultation**       **Tick in the corresponding BOX, to indicate the person or work group consulted:**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRINCIPAL                       | <input type="checkbox"/> ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL      | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Team     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leaders of Welfare              | <input type="checkbox"/> RE Coordinator/s         | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaders of Learning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MAINTENANCE Staff               | <input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT REP COUNCIL      | <input type="checkbox"/> P& F                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PARISH PRIEST                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Catholic School's Office |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER/S - Please specify: _____ |   |  |

Signed:

(Principal)

Date:

Date Introduced:	Last Review Date:	Next Review Date:
3/2/2020		