



HEATHDALE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE LTD  
DRUG EDUCATION POLICY V2 GP 07.3

August, 2005

1. Preamble:

By definition, drugs are substances which, when taken into the body, affect behaviour and health. People in our society take drugs for a variety of reasons, ranging from relief of pain to pursuit of pleasure. Drugs include a wide range of substances, such as tobacco, alcohol, analgesics, cannabis, amphetamines, steroids and solvents. Some of these are legal in society.

2. Guiding Principles:

This policy is consistent with Heathdale's Discipline Policy and College ethos and is based upon the testimony of the Bible and the evidence of best practice in education.

- 2.1. *Be very careful then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:15-18);*
- 2.2. *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own, you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body (1 Corinthians 6: 19-20);*
- 2.3. Students and parents have the right to expect that the school environment will be free from the dangers implicit in drug use;
- 2.4. We should encourage our students to adopt a lifestyle that avoids the use of illegal drugs and the misuse of legal drugs;
- 2.5. The best outcomes for our children and young people will occur when the school and the family work together;
- 2.6. All members of the school community should convey by their actions and teaching that they do not condone the inappropriate use of legal drugs and the possession and use of prohibited substances.

3. Aims:

This policy aims to:

- 3.1. Provide a framework to address alcohol, tobacco, and other drug-related problems in a Christian manner consistent with the College ethos and the requirements of the law;
- 3.2. Promote and maintain a healthy school environment;
- 3.3. Identify the role of Heathdale Christian College community in the prevention and intervention of drug related problems;
- 3.4. Document the school community's agreed position on, and accepted procedures for dealing with, drug-related incidents and problems.

Date: August 24, 2005

Signed: ..... (Chairman)

Decision:

Print name: Claude DUNN

4. It Is Therefore A Matter Of Policy That The College Does Not Permit :

- 4.1. The use of prohibited drugs;
- 4.2. The inappropriate use of prescribed and or non-prescribed medicines;
- 4.3. The inappropriate use of solvents, inhalants and /or other chemical agents;
- 4.4. The consumption of alcoholic beverages;
- 4.5. The smoking of tobacco and/or drugs and/or substances;
- 4.6. The possession of drug related paraphernalia (such as bongos or pipes etc);
- 4.7. Persons to be under the influence of alcohol and other drugs;
- 4.8. Persons to possess, sell, supply, exchange or negotiate in relation to any of the above.

5. Possible Consequences Of Breaching Any Of The Above Policy:

**5.1. Staff: discipline procedures will be implemented and *may* involve;**

- 5.1.1. Counselling;
- 5.1.2. Reprimand;
- 5.1.3. Termination of employment;
- 5.1.4. Police involvement;
- 5.1.5. Confiscation of any illicit substance;
- 5.1.6. Reference should be made to other College Policy and Guidelines that relates to Staff discipline (eg *Staff Performance and Conduct Policy June 2003*).

**5.2. Students: discipline procedures will be implemented and *may* involve;**

- 5.2.1. Counselling;
- 5.2.2. Reprimand;
- 5.2.3. Parent involvement;
- 5.2.4. Suspension;
- 5.2.5. Expulsion with the option of re-enrolment following satisfactory rehabilitation;
- 5.2.6. Police involvement (mandatory if illicit drugs are involved);
- 5.2.7. Confiscation of any banned substances;
- 5.2.8. Reference should be made to other College Policy and Guidelines that relates to student discipline (eg *Policy for Student Discipline 2002*).

**Note:** all drug related incidents are to be referred to the college Pastoral Carers at the appropriate stage and they will implement required referral strategies as appropriate.

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**6. The Policy Is Applicable:**

- 6.1. On College premises;
- 6.2. At functions, excursions or camps organised by the College;
- 6.3. When members of the College community are representing the College or wearing the College uniform.

**7. Communication of This Policy:**

This policy is to be distributed to all staff and school families which may involve the Parent Handbook, the College's Website, Parent Information Nights (where this Policy and the content of drug education in Year 9 and 10 Health, Year 11 and 12 Christian Life Studies, and Senior School Science classes is communicated.

**8. Teaching and Learning Strategies:**

A variety of Teaching and Learning strategies, together with appropriate professional development for staff will support the curriculum at each level in order to:

- 8.1. Increase student knowledge of relevant and accurate facts about drugs and the physical, emotional and social implications of their use;
- 8.2. Increase student understanding of the continuum of risk associated with drug use;
- 8.3. Prepare students to deal with drug-related issues in a variety of contexts by the development of personal, social and cognitive skills;
- 8.4. Build a moral and spiritual framework for decision-making.

**9. Occupational Health and Safety/Risk Management:**

Measures are to be implemented to ensure that visitors and trespassers to the College are not in breach of this Policy.

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