

# *Drugs & Addictive Substances Policy*



ST ANDREWS  
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

INSPIRED BY  
FAITH

DISTINGUISHED BY  
CHARACTER

LEADERS BY  
INFLUENCE

# *Drugs & Addictive Substances Policy*

## PREAMBLE

All policy, protocols and procedures flow from the St Andrews Christian College Mission Statement:

*“To educate our students so that they are well skilled, understand life on the basis of biblical truth, and are motivated to walk with God and serve Him in their lives, so that they will be a positive Christian influence in the world.”*

## POLICY DOCUMENT INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	Drugs & Addictive Substances Policy
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<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:</b>	Flinders Christian Community College
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To provide policy and direction for all the College Community.
<b>RELATED DOCUMENTS:</b>	First Aid Policy and Procedures OH&S Policy Student Safety code of conduct Student Safety & Protection Policy Student Code of Conduct Behaviour Management & Restorative Practices Policy Student Wellbeing Policy

## KEY DATES

<b>FIRST ISSUED:</b>	November 2020
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<b>REVIEW DATE:</b>	2028



## 1. RATIONALE

St Andrews Christian College recognises the need to encourage a healthy and drug-free lifestyle and provide a safe and drug-free school environment. The College has a responsibility to provide its students with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about drug use, or non-use, and to enforce strict adherence to this policy.

Drug abuse including smoking and vaping is harmful to the human body. As a Christian school with a mandate to educate students to maintain wellbeing and a healthy future, St Andrews Christian College adopts a Biblical perspective in approaching social issues and is guided by the following scriptures:

*"Do you not know that your bodies are temples 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 bodies."* 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..."* Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)

*"Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit..."* Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)

We are created in the image of God and the use of substances, which result in abuse of the body conflict with God's creation.

## 2. DEFINITION

A drug is defined as any substance, which, when taken into the body, alters its function physically and / or psychologically. This definition includes all drugs of addiction or dependence, such as analgesics, alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, steroids, amphetamines as well as solvents which may be inhaled, such as glue or petrol.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION

### 3.1 Student Medication

- Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring correct and sufficient medication is available to the College. They are also responsible for keeping records of their child's medication expiry dates and to update when necessary. The College Nurse may regularly check the expiry dates of medication being held for students (e.g. Ventolin, EpiPens, and Medicines). If they are out of date or about to expire parents may be contacted and requested to supply new medication.
- Legally, staff are not to administer any drugs or medications without specific permission from the parent / guardian (e.g. medication listed on a student's Action Plan). If a student is in need of such treatment, the parent / guardian or emergency contact may be phoned for verbal permission. Staff should make a note that this permission has been received. The date, time, medication name, student name and dosage administered also needs to be recorded.
- Teachers are required to know the location of their students' medication. Student medication is stored in First Aid. These medications are required to be taken on all excursions and off campus activities.

#### 3.1.1 Requests for Medicine to be administered

- There may be situations where a parent / guardian may wish to supply medication to be administered at the College. All medication to be administered at the College is to be delivered to Reception so that it can be controlled in a secure location. It must be clearly labelled with the student's name and medication identification. It must be accompanied

by clearly written specific advice including the student's name, dosage, time to be administered and appropriate storage instructions if applicable.

- Medication will not be accepted without signed and dated written documentation from parents / guardian.
- Unless medically indicated, administration timings should be aligned with recess and lunch timings. In the event a student changes the type or frequency of medication, the school must be notified in writing.
- When administering medication, if available, a second staff member will sight /check the medication and dosage to ensure it is given correctly.
- Office staff will not track children who fail to report for their medication.
- In special circumstances the school may permit a student to self-administer their own medication. In this case, the student must obtain written authorisation from their parents / guardians and from the College. Authorisation would usually be limited to students in Years 9 - 12 and for such medications as asthma, allergy or diabetes management.

### 3.1.2 *Prescription Medication*

- When providing medication, parents / guardians should provide evidence that the medication is duly prescribed by a medical practitioner or that the medication is a class of medication not requiring a prescription.
- Prescription medication should be labelled or accompanied by written advice from the medical practitioner or pharmacist.

## 3.2 *Pain Relief*

Pain relief medication can mask signs and symptoms of serious illness or injury **and are not administered** by the school as a standard 'first aid' strategy. They may, however be administered with consent, or at the request of the parent / guardian.

If a student requires paracetamol (Panadol) or Nurofen, staff will check the student's medical details and 'Permission to have Paracetamol' will be indicated with a 'Yes' or 'No'. Out of courtesy, parents are to be contacted for permission but if they are uncontactable and there is permission to give paracetamol it can be given. If parents are uncontactable and it states 'No' to paracetamol, staff are not to administer the pain relief.

In the event a parent indicates a student will need non-prescription pain control, the school will accept written instructions for a period not exceeding six days.

## 3.3 *Smoking and Vaping*

Students are strictly forbidden from possessing or smoking any form of cigarettes or vapes at any time while on the College premises, while off-site in College uniform, while representing the College or while participating in any College sanctioned activities, such as excursions, sports days, camps or mission trips.

Students caught in possession of or using tobacco products, cigarettes or vapes at school or during a College activity will be dealt with in accordance with the College *Behaviour Management and Restorative Practices Policy*. This may involve some or all of the following: drug education,



counselling, formal warnings, parental involvement, detentions, restriction of privileges, suspension or expulsion.

### 3.4 *All Other Drugs*

Possession of, use of, or direct involvement in dealing with drugs (or alcohol) in school uniform, or while representing the school or engaged in school activities may result in expulsion. The Principal reserves the right to examine each case on an individual basis, and apply leniency if it is deemed appropriate and justified. The College will provide professional counselling for students who are expelled under the above circumstances.

## 4. DRUG EDUCATION

The College will run drug education incorporated into the Health Curriculum, in conjunction with the existing pastoral care structures to ensure that students:

- Are provided with appropriate drug-related information;
- Develop an understanding of factors that influence drug-taking behaviour.