

**ROTORUA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY

Rationale:

Drug use is a fact of life in contemporary society. Some people consume drugs not only for medicinal, but also for recreational purposes. Abuse of drugs may result in anti social behaviour, lack of motivation, irritability and a range of health-related problems including mental health as well as affecting a student's academic performance. Rotorua Intermediate School wishes to provide a healthy and safe environment for staff and students that is drug free.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Drug Education. A Guide for Principals and Boards of Trustees, Ministry of Education, Learning Media, Wellington (2000).
- National Drug Policy. Ministry of Health, Wellington (1998).
- Healthy Schools: Kura Waiora. Ministry of Health, Wellington (1995).
- Managing Drug Related Incidents: Suggestions for schools. Foundation for Alcohol and Drug Education, Auckland (1999).
- The Rotorua Intermediate School Prospectus.

“Students may not be in possession of, using, or dealing in the above items at school, on the way to and from school, or on any school activity. Infringements of this rule are regarded as a major breach of school rules and carry very serious consequences.”

Guidelines:

After due consultation with students, staff, parents/whanau and the Board of Trustees the purposes of this policy are as follows:

- to discourage all drug use, which is detrimental to the health and well being of students and staff
- to develop acceptable social skills
- to create an environment where students are educated about drugs and drug issues and where sanctioned drug use takes place in controlled circumstances (see section 4)
- to assist staff and students to resist the pressures to use and to support people who wish to quit
- to encourage community commitment and participation in activities which support our students' learning needs.

Strategies:

- Rotorua Intermediate School will promote and endorse a drug free environment.
- The school will provide students with education about drug issues, the aim being to ensure that students are informed about drugs and related issues, the implication of drug use and the possible harm to themselves and the community.

Reviewed: January 2008

Next Review: January 2010

Approved by Chairperson BOT Date.....

- The school will provide staff and parents with education about drugs and related issues.

- Sanctioned drug use
 - (a) Students who need to use prescribed or medicinal drugs on a regular basis at school must produce written information from a parent/guardian to appropriate school personnel.
 - (b) If alcohol is to be served within the school buildings or at a school function prior approval must be gained from the Principal and/or Board of Trustees.

- All staff, students and parents will be informed of the school's policy and procedures for the management of drug related incidents (see appendix).

Effectiveness Review:

The review process involved gathering information for making judgments about the extent to which objectives have been achieved, then deciding any further action needed to the revealed successes and weaknesses.

1. *Identify who will be responsible for leading the review, and those to be involved*
2. *Decide a timeframe for the review*
3. *Gather and consider information related to the policy objectives*
4. *Make judgments about achievement and effectiveness of the objectives*
5. *Recommend future actions*
6. *Report*

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