

Policy: DRUG EDUCATION**Code: 5201****Program Leader:**

1. Rationale

Drug education is a crucial component in improving the wellbeing and learning outcomes of students. School, parent and community involvement in drug education enhances the wellbeing for all students by giving them the means of dealing with the use of drugs in society. The philosophy underpinning drug education in Victorian government schools is a harm minimisation approach.

The school assists this process by developing relevant and engaging drug education related curriculum, programs and resources and by ensuring an appropriate response to drug-related incidents.

2. Aims

Bayswater North Primary School aims to:

- 2.1 Base drug education on sound theory and current research and use evaluation to inform decisions.
- 2.2 Embed drug education within a comprehensive whole school approach to promoting health and well-being.
- 2.3 Establish drug education outcomes that are appropriate to the school context and contribute to the overall goal of minimising drug related harm.
- 2.4 Promote a safe, supportive and inclusive school environment as part of seeking to prevent or reduce drug related harm.
- 2.5 Promote collaborative relationships between students, staff, families and the broader community in the planning and implementation of school drug education.
- 2.6 Provide culturally appropriate targeted and responsive drug education that addresses local needs, values and priorities.
- 2.7 Acknowledge that a range of risk and protective factors impact on health and education outcomes and influence choices about drug use.
- 2.8 Use consistent policy and practice to inform and manage responses to drug related incidents and risks.
- 2.9 Locate programs within the curriculum framework, thus providing timely, developmentally appropriate and on-going drug education.
- 2.10 Ensure that teachers are resourced and supported in their central role in delivering drug education programs.
- 2.11 Use student-centred, interactive strategies to develop students' knowledge, skills, attitudes and values.
- 2.12 Provide accurate information and meaningful learning activities that dispel myths about drug use and focus on real life contexts and challenges.

3. Implementation

- 3.1. The Student Wellbeing Team (MESH, Managing Educational Student Health) will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the program and providing adequate professional development for staff.
 - The School Administration and MESH Committee will be responsible for welfare issues related to drug incidents
 - Class teachers will be responsible for delivery of the program.
- 3.2. Drug Education will form part of the Health program throughout the school and will be allocated time as part of this curriculum area. Grades will utilise a variety of appropriate resources such as, Life Education lesson, The Resilience Education and Drug Information (REDI) resource kits, and other relevant programs with appropriate follow-up activities.
- 3.3. Support Personnel may include:
 - Life Education Van. The education officer will provide sessions and follow up matter for each grade level.
 - Guidance Officers and Social Workers
 - Student Welfare Co-ordinator
 - Chaplain
 - Regional Drug Education Facilitator
 - Visiting Speakers



- Community Policing
 - Local Community personnel.
- 3.4. Professional development and information sessions for staff and the wider community will be organised according to need.
- 3.5. Programs should encourage the development of self-esteem and responsible decision making in the face of negative peer pressure and media advertising. The School will utilise TRIBES and Restorative practice to support student personal development.
- 3.6. The Drug Education Program will be supported by the:
- Student Wellbeing Welfare Policy
 - Student Engagement Policy
 - Bullying Policy
 - First Aid Policy
- The program will be embedded as part of the integrated curriculum.
- 3.7. School drug education resources will be housed and maintained in the Library.

5. Evaluation

- 5.1 MESH will be responsible for the annual evaluation of the Drug Education Policy
- 5.2 Class teachers will be responsible for the evaluation of the classroom programs.

CERTIFICATION

This policy was adopted at the School Council meeting held at Bayswater North Primary School, on July 25, 2011

Signed:.....
School Council President

Signed:
Principal

This policy was ratified by School Council at their July 25, 2011 meeting