



WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL POLICY ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, VAPING & DRUGS

INTRODUCTION	<p>1 Whanganui High School wishes to provide a healthy and safe environment for all staff and students. Evidence clearly shows that people are unlikely to reach their potential whilst they are regular users of some drugs (including alcohol and tobacco). Abuse of alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drugs (including prescription drugs) can result in anti-social behaviour, under-achievement in academic and extra-curricular activities and a range of health problems.</p>
OBJECTIVES	<p>1 Create an environment where students are educated about drugs and drug-related issues; and where they learn to know and understand the physical, emotional and social consequences that can result from the misuse of alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drugs.</p> <p>2 Discourage all drug use that may be detrimental to the health and well-being of students and staff.</p> <p>3 Develop appropriate social skills related to the use of legal alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drugs.</p> <p>4 Protect the rights of students to a positive, non-disrupted education, not eroded by the use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drugs nor the actions of any student involved with alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drugs.</p> <p>5 Assist staff and students to resist the pressures to use alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drugs and to support those who wish to stop using and/or have problems related to unacceptable alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drug use.</p> <p>6 Increase the personal well-being of students and staff and to promote a safe and healthy School environment.</p>
GUIDELINES	<p>1 Whanganui High School promotes and endorses an alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drug-free environment.</p> <p>Tobacco & Vaping The School recognises that smoking/vaping and passive smoking/vaping constitutes a significant health risk.</p> <p>In keeping with current legislation (Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Vaping) Amendment Act 2020), the School is a tobacco and vape-free site.</p> <p>Our aim is to reduce smoking and vaping uptake among students, and work towards a smokefree and vape-free society.</p> <p>Students are not permitted to use or possess tobacco or vapes, vape juice, etc. at School, at School functions or while engaged in School-related activities such as camps, sports, cultural and field trips or while identifiable with the School. Students accompanying other students who are smoking or vaping may be deemed as being involved with tobacco/vape use.</p> <p>Staff and adult visitors to the School are not permitted to use or display tobacco or vapes at school, at School functions or while engaged in School-related activities such as camps, sports, cultural and field trips or while identifiable with the School.</p> <p>All modes of transport used by students during School-related activities will be "smoke/vape-free".</p> <p>New staff, temporary staff, contractors and visitors are to be made aware of the smoke/vape-free policy as appropriate. Smoke/vape-free signs and notices are to be displayed in appropriate places throughout the School.</p> <p>Alcohol – All Students</p> <p>1) Students are not permitted to possess, consume or encourage the consumption of, or be under the influence of alcohol.</p>

This applies:

- a) during School hours, including lunchtimes, and to and from School;
 - b) whilst on the School site;
 - c) whilst at a School function or part of a School activity or School trip;
 - d) whilst they can be identified with the School, e.g.: in uniform or sports uniform, etc.
- 2) Students are not permitted to be on licensed premises without the Principal's permission. This applies as in (a) and (c) above; and (d), with the exception that a student may be on licensed premises (e.g. in uniform for a meal) out of School hours while in the company of their parent or legal guardian.

Alcohol – Staff

Staff are not permitted to possess, consume or encourage the consumption of, or be under the influence of alcohol.

This applies:

- a) during School hours, including lunchtimes;
- b) whilst at a School function or part of a School activity which students may attend.

If alcohol is to be served within the School buildings or at a School function, approval must be gained from the Principal and/or the Board. Alcohol is not to be offered as prizes at School functions, or School-related activities, or sold on School property for the purposes of raising money. Students will not sell or serve alcohol. Groups using or hiring School facilities will not be able to serve or consume alcohol, without the written approval of the Principal.

Prior to major School social functions (e.g.: School ball, sports dinner) a letter should be sent to parents and caregivers reminding them of the School's attitude towards the consumption of alcohol by students.

Inhalants

No persons are permitted to inhale or otherwise ingest a solvent whilst on School premises, at School functions or engaged in School-related activities such as camps, sports and cultural field trips or while identifiable with the School.

Students are not permitted to inhale or otherwise ingest or be under the influence of a solvent during recognised School hours.

Illicit Drugs

Whanganui High School prohibits the possession, consumption or supply of any illicit drugs or drug-related objects (e.g.: pipes, syringes, etc.) by any person on the School premises or at any School-related event.

Students and staff are not permitted to be under the influence of, to possess, consume or supply any illicit drugs or drug-related objects during recognised School hours whilst on School premises, at School functions or while engaged in School-related activities such as camps, sports, cultural and field trips or while identifiable with the School.

In the event of any student appearing to be under the influence of an illicit drug, a School representative may seek medical advice. The parents/caregivers should be informed and the Police may be notified.


Any illicit drugs confiscated from students will be given directly to the Principal, who will in turn hand them over to the Police at the earliest opportunity.

Note: Possessing, using and/or supplying illicit drugs is regarded as a serious matter by the Whanganui High School Board, constituting "Gross Misconduct which is likely to be harmful or a dangerous example to others." Consequently, students caught behaving in this manner are likely to be stood-down and/or suspended.

Staff found to be associated with illicit drug taking in any way are likely to face disciplinary action by the School.

	2	Whanganui High School will provide students with appropriate education about drug issues. The aim being to ensure that students are informed about drugs and drug related issues, implications of drug use and the possible harm to themselves and the community.
	3	The School will make available to staff and parents educational resources about drugs and related issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Drug education evenings will be offered to parents and caregivers and the wider community. b) Staff will be provided with the information and training to deal with drug-related incidents. c) Intervention programmes will be offered to students and staff who are identified as being at-risk or who request help.
	4	Professional help, either School Counsellors or outside agencies, will be available for any member of the School community (staff and students) with drug-related problems. These problems may involve the abuse of drugs by the individual or by people close to them.
	5	Sanctioned drug use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Students who need to use prescribed or medicinal drugs within School jurisdiction must have the written approval of a parent or caregiver and the Principal. b) If alcohol is to be served within the School buildings or at School function, prior written approval must be granted by the Principal and/or Board of Trustees. c) Any use of alcohol must be subject to New Zealand's laws and regulations regarding the serving and consumption of alcohol.
	6	Management of drug-related incidents: Staff, students and parents will be informed of the School's policy and procedures for the management of drug-related incidents as appropriate.
EVALUATION		The Board, in association with the Principal, will review this policy on a three-yearly cycle in accordance with the School's quality management cycle.

Approved by the Board

Signed Chairperson:  Date: 1/5/23

Signed Principal:  Date: 1/5/23