Drug Education

Rationale:
At Torquay College we believe that students have the right to be safe and supported in their school community. This school will focus on activities that build and support a health promoting environment. Issues such as alcohol, tobacco, pharmaceutical drugs and other drug use and misuse will impact on the school as they do in the broader community. This school accepts the need for a co-ordinated and comprehensive approach to drug education across the whole school community and acknowledge that schools are only one part of a community response to drug issues. Appropriate skills and knowledge will be taught to minimise drug related harms for students with a high priority being given to student welfare.

Aims:
- To provide drug education as part of the school health education program.
- To involve staff, parents and the community in planning and implementing drug education.
- To develop supportive procedures for students experiencing problems with drug issues.
- To provide clear guidelines for the recording and administering of first aid and medication.
- To provide a planned and consistent approach to drug related incidents.
- To provide Professional Development for staff so that they are confident in teaching harm minimisation drug education.
- To provide a framework for staff to respond to school based incidents of drug use by students.
- To provide Prevention and Early Intervention programs to increase student resilience and coping skills.

Implementation:
- The Student Welfare team will oversee the development and effective implementation of drug education.
- A whole school approach to Prevention strategies will support drug education. This will include Values Education, Buddies, Awards, social skill programs, leadership programs, teacher modelling,
- Guidelines for dealing with drug related incidents will be given to staff.
- The school Medication Policy outlines the management plan for students on medication. Parents are required to update and inform the school of changes to medication for their child.
- The Early Intervention program requires all staff through duty of care to report to the Student Welfare co-ordinator or Principal any student who they believe may be at risk from their own or others drug use. Students will be case managed by referral to the Student Welfare co-ordinator.
- The school intervention program provides effective treatment and support to students in crisis, ensures access to affordable and appropriate counselling, care and treatment services.
- Post vention strategies ensure that where students and/or the school are involved in traumatic or critical incidents they are given follow up support .eg. Seasons program.
**Evaluation:**
This policy will be reviewed regularly as part of the school’s three-year review cycle, or at times that issues regarding our management are raised.

This policy was last ratified by Torquay College Council in 2017