

Procedures for Dealing with Smoking, Drugs and Alcohol

Our school is responsible for keeping the school environment free of substances that have a detrimental effect on the mind and harmful impact on mental and physical health.

Smoking

- Cashmere High School is a Smoke Free Environment and complies with the Smoke Free Environments Act 1990.
- Students are not permitted to smoke whilst in uniform, travelling to and from school, at any school activity, function or event.
- The school's ban on smoking is outlined within the School Rules which all students are required to comply with and which are agreed to when parents sign the school enrolment forms.
- Students who are in breach of the school's non-smoking requirement will receive disciplinary action. This is likely to be an in-school stand-down. The student's parents will also be informed and the student referred to the school nurse and/or counsellor to complete a Stop Smoking Programme.
- Students are educated about the dangers of smoking in the core Health programme.
- A Health Committee is co-ordinated by the school nurse and includes representatives of students and staff. One of the aims of this committee is to actively promote healthy choices in life. This includes raising awareness on the dangers of smoking and passive smoking.
- All staff and student work areas and common rooms are non-smoking areas at all times. If staff wish to smoke this must not occur on the school property or in visual sight of the school entrance(s).

Drugs and Alcohol

- The possession, supply or consumption of any form of alcohol is banned for students under the School Rules. This rule, and potential consequences, applies to students in uniform, on the way to or from school, at any school function, trip or event.
- Any student found in possession, supply or consuming alcohol will be referred to the Senior Leadership Team for disciplinary consequences.
- No students are allowed to bring, distribute or use any form of drug without verified medical consent.
- Drugs refer to any illegal substance such as natural products like cannabis or any synthetic drugs such as cannabinoids, or ecstasy. Any drugs that may be legal (e.g. Restricted to over 18 years or herbal alternatives) are also regarded as banned substances for our students to possess, use or supply.
- Due to the serious harm such drugs can cause to the mental and physical health of students, any possession, use or supply will be dealt with at the serious level of the school's disciplinary consequences. Any such breach of the school rule should be referred to the school Principal.
- Any use, consumption or distribution of alcohol by staff at school or at any school related function must have prior approval from the school Principal. Any staff possession or use of non-medical drugs at school or while on school business could be an employment discipline issue which could result in dismissal.

The School Rules clearly state that smoking is not permitted and possession, distribution or use of alcohol or drugs is forbidden. These rules are available on the Cashmere High School app.