



WAIKATO DIOCESAN  
School for Girls

## Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy

### NAG 5 – Alcohol and Drugs

#### Policy # 5.5

**Note:** In this policy the term drugs includes but is not limited to alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes/vapes, solvents, psychoactive substances ('legal highs') and other illegal drugs, and misused prescription or over-the-counter drugs, all of which will mainly be referred to as 'drugs'.

#### Rationale

Waikato Diocesan School for Girls is committed to promoting and providing a safe environment for all staff and students. Use of any drug or substance (including misuse of prescription or over-the-counter drugs) can result in a wide range of negative effects within the school community.

#### Policy Statement


It is the policy of Waikato Diocesan School for Girls to:


- Ensure that all members of the school community are aware that drug or substance misuse is unacceptable and will be treated as a serious breach of the school rules.
- Ensure that all students receive on-going education about issues related to drug use, including education regarding the physical, emotional and social consequences that can result from the misuse/abuse of drugs.
- Assist students to resist the pressures to use drugs harmfully, and to support those who wish to stop using and/or experience issues related to problematic use of drugs.
- Utilise a fair and consistent disciplinary process to deal with staff and/or students who breach this policy.

#### Guidelines

1. Age and level appropriate drug education will be taught as part of the Health Education Programme, consistent with the Health and Physical Education New Zealand curriculum.
2. Waikato Diocesan School for Girls is a drug-free school and prohibits the promotion, possession, consumption or supply of any illicit drugs or drug-related objects or symbols (eg. pipes, syringes, e-cigarettes/vapes, etc) by any person on the school premises or at any school-related event.
3. Students are not permitted to possess, consume or be under the influence of drugs during school hours, including lunchtimes, to and from school, while on the school premises, at school-related events or while they can be identified with the school, eg: in uniform or sports uniform, etc.
4. Staff, volunteers and visitors are not permitted to possess, consume or encourage the consumption of, or be under the influence of drugs at school, or any external school setting such as camps at any time. The only exception to this is the appropriate consumption of alcohol at staff or school events outside of school hours with the permission of the Principal.

5. If alcohol is to be served within the school premises, at a school function or by groups using or hiring school facilities, approval must be sought in advance from the Principal and the required liquor licence acquired.
6. Students are not to sell or serve alcohol while on the school premises or at any school related event.
7. Prior to the May Ball and any School socials (including socials with other schools) a letter should be sent to parents/caregivers reminding them of the school’s attitude and policy towards the use of alcohol/drugs by students.
8. In the event of any person appearing or suspected to be under the influence or in possession of alcohol/drugs, a school representative may seek medical, professional or security advice. This may include the use of a breathalyser. As appropriate, parents/caregivers will be informed and the police will be notified.
9. Smoking of any substance, including e-cigarettes/vapes, is not permitted on the entire Waikato Diocesan School for Girls premises or at any school-related events, as per the Smoke-free Policy.
10. Employees have a positive obligation to bring any concerns about alcohol, substance or drug problems to the attention of the management, especially in instances where there is a risk to health and safety in the workplace.
11. Professional help from counsellors and agencies is available to students and staff with alcohol, drug or substance-related problems.
12. Students and staff with any drug-related problems of their own or within their families will be treated in a reasonable and professional way.
13. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken by the school against any students or staff who are found to have broken the school rules with respect to the misuse/abuse of alcohol, drugs or substances.

Adopted by BOT:  Signed (BOT Chairperson)  
28/9/22. Date

Adopted by PB:  Signed (PB Chairperson)  
27.9.22 Date

Previously reviewed October 2019

Reviewed: 2022	Next review: 2025
----------------	-------------------