

# Rangiora High School Board of Trustees



## Drugs (including Alcohol) Policy

### Rationale

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The Rangiora High School Board of Trustees recognises that while both legal and illegal drug use may be a fact of life in contemporary society, research shows that students cannot maximise their learning or reach their potential whilst they are regular users of drugs. The Board of Trustees regards drug abuse by students or staff as a serious health and disciplinary issue.

Rangiora High School provides a healthy and safe environment for staff and students that is drug-free. A drug is defined as being tobacco (including e-cigarettes), alcohol, illegal drugs, volatile substances (such as petrol, solvents and inhalants) and other substances used for psycho-active effects, recreation, or enhancement, as well as prescription and pharmacy-only drugs used outside medical or pharmaceutical advice.

### Goals

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- To discourage all drug use which is detrimental to the health and well-being of students and staff
- To develop acceptable social skills
- To create an environment where students are educated about drugs and drug issues
- To assist staff and students to resist the pressures to use and to support people who wish to quit drug abuse
- To comply with the requirements of relevant legislation.

### Guidelines

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1. Rangiora High School will not tolerate drug and/or alcohol abuse on school grounds or on any school activity/function/event, EOTC activity or activities sponsored by the School.
2. The school will provide staff and students with education about drug and alcohol issues to ensure that students are informed about drugs and related issues, the implication of drug use and the possible harm to themselves and the community.
3. The school can provide parents with education about drugs and related issues.
4. Students identified as having a problem in any of these areas will be given counselling, and the school will liaise with outside agencies which can provide professional assistance.
5. Students may not be in possession of, using, or dealing in the above items at school, on the way to and from school, or on any school activity. Infringements of this rule are regarded as a major breach of school rules and can carry very serious consequences.
6. The school will offer anti-drug programmes to all students and staff.
7. Staff are not to consume drugs, including alcohol, when they have responsibility for students.
8. Staff are to model responsible use of alcohol while in the company of students.

9. Alcohol is only permitted within the school grounds for specific school functions. Written permission from the Principal and/or Board of Trustees is required for all such functions.
10. At staff functions alcohol may be served at the discretion of the Principal.

## **Student substance abuse and smoking**

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### **Controlled Drugs**

No person shall while under the jurisdiction of the school:

- a) Be under the influence of;
- b) Have in their possession;
- c) Use;
- d) Sell or supply; or
- e) Purchase or receive;

any controlled drug as the term defined in Section 2 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 or any amendment thereto, or conspire to do any of (a) to (e) as listed above.

### **Other Substances**

No person shall while under the jurisdiction of the school:

- a) Be under the influence of;
- b) Have in their possession;
- c) Use;

other than for the purpose intended by the manufacturer, any substance or thing which when inhaled, imbibed or taken in any way has the effect or is capable of having the effect of modifying the taker's behaviour or conspire to do any of (a) to (c) as listed above.

### **Alcohol**

No student (including those students aged 18 years and over) or person shall while under the jurisdiction of the school:

- Be under the influence of;
- Have in their possession;
- Use;
- Sell or supply; or
- Purchase or receive;

or conspire to do any of the above.

No staff member while acting in the capacity of a staff member shall give alcohol to a student or enable a student to obtain alcohol in any school related function. Staff members should ensure that they are not involved in providing students with alcohol or consuming alcohol with students in a situation that may bring the school into disrepute.

### **Tobacco**

Rangiora High School is a smoke free environment and prohibits the use of tobacco products in any form by any person on school premises, and no student shall while under the jurisdiction of the school:

- Have in their possession;

- Use;
- or conspire to do either of the above.

Smoke free signs will be displayed.

## Definitions

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- For the purposes of this policy, the things which a person has in their possession includes anything subject to their control which is in the custody of another.
- Jurisdiction of the school refers to when students are on the way to school or from school, on school premises, or attending any school event (school trips, camps, dances, competitions .....

## Documentation

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- Education Act 1989
- Smokefree Environment Act 1990
- Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
  - [Southern District Health Board \*Setting the Standard\*](#)
  - [The Ministry of Health \*National Drug Policy 2015-2020\*](#)
  - [The New Zealand Police \*Alcohol and Other Drug Guidelines\*](#)
  - [The Health Promotion Agency's alcohol website](#)

<b>Date of Review</b>	2017
<b>Date of Next Review</b>	2020
<b>Signed by the Board Chair</b>	