



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152

DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

Rationale:

Effective drug education is important because young people are faced with many influences to use both licit and illicit drugs. Education can play a counterbalancing role in shaping a normative culture of safety, moderation, and informed decision making. Engaging students in drug education activities assists them to make healthy and safe choices, identify risky situations, and develop strategies to prepare them for challenging situations. Appropriate skills, knowledge, values and attitudes will be taught to students to minimise drug-related harm, with a high priority being given to students' welfare. Medication at school is to be processed and managed in accordance with school procedures.

Aims:

To provide a school environment that is free of illicit drugs and safe for all staff and students by:

- increasing student's knowledge, social and life skills, and refusal skills towards licit and illicit drug use
- position drug education within a broader health and personal learning curriculum that focuses, amongst other things, on mental health issues such as stress and coping
- involving staff in planning and implementing Drug Education programs/teaching and learning activities
- providing a planned and consistent approach to any drug-related incidents e.g. syringe safety
- providing professional development and appropriate resources for staff so that they feel confident in teaching and drug education
- managing medication in a safe and responsible manner and in accordance to school procedures.

Implementation:

- The Life Education program will be used biannually throughout the school as a stimulus and important resource for Drug Education.
- Social skills programs such as You Can Do It will be implemented to support students' mental wellbeing.
- All classroom teachers to update and deliver a Drug Education curriculum each year that is based on the Victorian Curriculum.
- All classroom teachers will be provided with the Iramoo Primary School Drug Education Guidelines that includes Victorian Curriculum content descriptors, achievement standards and related activities for each year level. This document to be updated each year.
- Professional development focusing on current available resources (e.g. *Talking Tactics Together, Resilience and Drug Information Kits*), classroom strategies and drug-related student welfare to be provided as required.
- An action plan for dealing with syringe safety will be displayed in appropriate places throughout the school.
- Guidelines for recording and administering first aid and medication will be reviewed against the DET Guidelines as required.

- Current First Aid qualifications will be maintained and an updated list of all staff with current first aid qualifications will be displayed in the sick bay room, office, staffroom and other appropriate places throughout the school.

On camps or excursions

- Teachers will advise the sick bay attendant of the date of the excursion or camp **at least** one week in advance, for preparation of necessary medication arrangements.
- At least one week prior to the camp/excursion, teachers will be nominated for the responsibility of administering medication and should complete a checklist indicating the type of medication, dosage, time to be taken and child's name.
- Teachers responsible for administering medication will keep a medical register of the child's name, dose taken, and the time taken.
- An appropriate first aid kit will be taken on excursions including sporting events and any first aid administered will be noted.
- Follow School Medication policy.

Evaluation:

- The development and delivery of units of work including specialised programs e.g. Life Education.
- Published DET guidelines for recording and administering first aid and medication.
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's Drug Education Plan three year review cycle.

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/phised/Pages/drugeducation.aspx>