



# Karcultaby Area School Drug Policy

## **Karcultaby Area School is a Health Promoting School**

Karcultaby Area School is a health promoting school and we are committed to maintaining a safe, secure and supportive environment for our community.

It is important that our school community is aware that there will be serious consequences for any student involved with illegal drugs, solvents, tobacco or alcohol while on the school premises, while on a school excursion or when representing the school (Representing the school also includes anytime in school uniform such as going to and from school).

Our policy has been developed from the principles of the Department of Education Drug Strategy – which includes drug prevention via explicit teaching of the Health Education curriculum, open communication with parents and families and counselling strategies to support students to be successful during their return to school life.

### **Involvement With Illegal Drugs Involves:**

- The use of illegal drugs (this includes alcohol and solvents)
- The possession of illegal drugs
- The possession of instruments used with illegal drugs
- Being present when illegal drugs are being used by other students

### **Consequences for Involvement with Illegal Drugs:**

In all cases parents/caregivers are contacted and asked to collect their son/daughter. Students will be suspended, or may be excluded, and are expected to meet strict re-entry conditions before returning to school. The police will also be informed and will be involved. Students will also be monitored, counselled and supported during their transition back into school.

### **Alcohol, Tobacco and e-cigarettes**

Karcultaby Area School also takes a strong stance against the use of tobacco, e-cigarettes and alcohol. The use of these on school premises, while on a school excursion or when representing the school will result in consequences (again representing the school includes anytime in school uniform such as going to and from school).

### **Prescription and non-prescription drugs**

Other non-illegal drugs include prescription drugs, painkillers (such as panadol) and other "over the counter" medications. Parents are asked to negotiate a Health Care plan and we will store medications in a locked facility and dispense them according to this plan. Consequences for students in possession of non-illegal drugs will be determined by leadership on a case by case basis and will involve contact with Parents/Caregivers.

### **Caffeine based drinks**

While there are currently no consequences outside our normal behaviour management plan, we discourage students under the age of 15 years old from drinking caffeine based drinks. These drinks

are often marketed as energy drinks and are now widely available. The health issues associated with caffeine based drinks are sleep disruption, loss of appetite, hyperactivity and poor brain function that may affect concentration, behaviour and performance in class. These drinks will be confiscated from the student and will be available at the end of the day for them to collect.

### **Processes for illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco**

#### **For a First Offence:**

- The student will be suspended and parents need to pick them up from school
- Parents/Caregivers will be required to attend notified and a re-entry meeting with their child at the school
- Police will be notified

#### **For a Second Offence:**

- The student will be suspended for up to 5 days or a time deemed suitable by the leadership team
- Parents/caregivers will be notified immediately and asked to collect their son/daughter.
- Again, students will also be monitored, counselled and supported during their transition back into school.
- Police will be notified

### **Identification of Drug Use**

Each instance of drug possession will be treated individually and independently depending on the circumstances at the time and the individuals concerned.

Staff have responsibilities for the health, welfare and safety of the students in their care. The following procedures should be followed if a teacher suspects there has been some form of drug abuse:

1. The teacher will contact leadership immediately.
2. The suspicion is to be reported promptly to the Principal, or Assistant Principal who together with the Wellbeing Leader will determine the appropriate action to be taken.
3. The student(s) involved in drug related incidents will work with the Wellbeing Leader on a program aimed at preventing further incidents
4. Please note that staff have the right to search students bags and lockers if there is a reason to believe that there is possession of drugs

#### **Relevant contact details**

- Police 86802231
- Regional Office Port Lincoln 86820700
- DfE Legislation and Legal Services 82261555
- DfE Communication Manager (media) 82267904
- DfE Drug Strategy 82261287
- Child Abuse Report Line 131478
- Drug and Alcohol Service South Australia Support line 1300 131 340

**POLICY ENDORSED**

**Governing Council: 12/09/23**

**Review Date: 2025**