



MALVERN VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

CURRICULUM

RATIONALE:

Effective Drug Education is important in empowering young people to make healthy and safe choices, identify risky situations, and develop strategies to prepare them for challenging situations.

Drug Education is a shared responsibility between school, home and the broader community and will be provided at all levels of schooling and will include specific Drug Education curriculum as well as resilience education, problem solving and appropriate coping strategies.

AIMS:

- To focus on a prevention model, particularly in relation to harmful drug use, illicit drug use, inappropriate alcohol consumption and solvent use.
- To provide all students with a comprehensive, age appropriate Drug Education curriculum.
- To ensure a holistic approach to Drug Education by approaching drug education in a broadly defined curriculum.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- The school will include a specific, age appropriate and sequential Drug Education curriculum. This education program will:
 - Develop students' life skills and protective behaviours.
 - Promote the range of relationships in which students can engage.
 - Ensure that students are connected to their schooling.
 - Highlight external influences such as, media, family and peers.
 - Respond to cultural and social needs of the school community.
 - Engage parents where possible.
 - Be comprehensive and evidence based.
 - Promote a positive school climate and relationships
 - Be targeted to needs and contexts identified through consultation with students, staff and parents.
 - Embed timely, developmentally appropriate drug education programs within a curriculum framework that utilises effective pedagogy.
- The strategy will focus on developing students' life skills and protective behaviours, promoting the range of relationships in which students can engage, ensuring that students are connected to their schooling, and external influences such as, media, family and peers.
- A harm minimisation approach will be taken in accordance with the Department's guidelines.
- Appropriate resources will be used to enhance the curriculum, such as those found on the DET site (<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/health/Pages/drugedulearn.aspx>)
- Professional development will be provided where necessary to ensure staff feel confident in delivering Drug Education

RESOURCES:

- DET Guidelines:
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/health/pages/drugeducation.aspx>
- DET School Policies Advisory Guide: Drug Use Policy:
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/druguse.aspx>

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed with student, parent and community input as part of the school's three year review process.

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 2017

TO BE REVIEWED: 2020