



Te Aroha College

Alcohol, Drugs and other harmful substances

Te Aroha College maintains a learning environment free of alcohol, drugs, and other harmful substances to provide a physically and emotionally safe place for students, staff, and the school community (Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; Education and Training Act 2020). We comply with all relevant New Zealand legislation and take a whole-school wellbeing approach to alcohol, drugs, and other harmful substances.

Purpose

- To maintain the high quality of Health Education at Te Aroha College.
- To foster and encourage prosocial and interpersonal skills to give students the confidence to make responsible choices about alcohol and drug use.
- To affirm students who choose to abstain from alcohol, drugs and smoking, vaping and to promote preventative publicity and programmes.
- To ensure that students with alcohol and drug related problems of their own or in their families are supported in a caring and professional way.
- To affirm and support the school rules on drinking, smoking, vaping and misuse of drugs when involved in school activities, by ensuring students understand them and the consequences of breaking them.
- To provide staff and parent education about alcohol and drugs so they can be responsible role models and foster healthy attitudes in the school community.

Definition

- 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, competitions)

Guidelines

- Te Aroha College 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
- 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.
- Gifts/Prizes/Raffles From time to time alcohol may be provided as gifts, prizes or raffles. This is allowable under this policy so long as the person receiving the gift, prize or raffle proceeds is over 18 years of age.



Delegation

- Implementation of this policy is delegated to the principal. The principal may take all reasonable steps to prevent alcohol, drugs and other harmful substances being on school grounds. These will comply with the Education and Training Act (2020) and the Guidelines for the surrender and retention of property and seizures (2014).

Ratified	February 2024
Date of next review	February 2027