



Prohibited Substances Policy

1 Context

- 1.1 In realising our mission and vision and recognising our moral and legal obligations, Cabra Dominican College aims to provide a safe, secure, and healthy environment for all of its students.
- 1.2 The use, possession, or supply of illicit or prohibited substances by or to Cabra students is:
- (a) against the law;
 - (b) has the potential to seriously harm students; and
 - (c) threatens the safety of the community.
- 1.3 This policy is embedded within a whole school strategy aimed at promoting a healthy lifestyle and wise decision making.

2 Policy Statement

The use, possession, or supply of Prohibited Substances is strictly prohibited and constitutes a breach of this Policy. This includes use both at the College and outside of the College in keeping with the Scope of this policy (Clause 4 below).

3 Definitions

Prohibited Substance means:

- (a) any substance declared illegal under South Australian law;
- (b) a substance which is unlawful for a person under the age of 18 years to possess or consume, such as alcohol or tobacco;
- (c) a substance which is not declared illegal but which a student possesses with the intention of misusing such as solvents, other chemical agents or nitrous oxide);
- (d) 'vapes' or electronic cigarettes; or
- (e) drug-related equipment, such as that which is used to consume drugs.

4 Scope

- 4.1 This policy applies to all students of Cabra Dominican College.
- 4.2 This policy is supported by parents/caregivers and staff of Cabra Dominican College.
- 4.3 This policy applies to student attendance at and travel to:
- (a) College premises;
 - (b) College functions; and
 - (c) excursions and camps.



- 4.4 This policy applies any time that students are representing the College which includes:
- (a) when students are wearing the College uniform; or
 - (b) when students are identifying themselves as being Cabra students, such as on social media.

5 Principles

- 5.1 The principle of harm minimisation informs this Policy. This involves a range of strategies and approaches that contribute to the prevention and reduction of the harmful consequences of Prohibited Substance use for the individual, society and the College.
- 5.2 The welfare of a student in possession of, or affected by, Prohibited Substances will be paramount in the first instance. This clause does not, however, affect the operation of Clause 6 and potential consequences for a breach of this Policy.
- 5.3 A drug and alcohol education program will be part of the school curriculum.
- 5.4 The Principal may sanction the use of legal substances which would ordinarily constitute a Prohibited Substance (such as alcohol) for a special event (e.g., permitting alcohol to be consumed on College premises by people over the age of 18 years for Year 12 Graduation).

6 Response to a Breach of this Policy

- 6.1 Where there is a reasonable suspicion that a student has a Prohibited Substance in their possession, the Principal or appointed nominee, accompanied by another adult, may request to search that student's person, possessions, locker, or bag.
- 6.2 Where a student refuses to comply with a request under Clause 6.1 above, the Principal or appointed nominee may:
- (a) contact the student's parents/caregiver to request for them to attend the College immediately; and
 - (b) contact SAPOL to attend the College to complete the search.
- 6.3 In determining a response to a breach of this Policy, the Principal or nominee will consider the:
- (a) nature and seriousness of the incident;
 - (b) circumstances of the student or students involved, including age and developmental considerations;
 - (c) welfare of the student and the family;
 - (d) the welfare and expectations of the general College community; and
 - (e) the needs and safety of others in the College.
- 6.4 Notwithstanding the considerations set out in Clause 6.3 above, a breach of this Policy will invoke serious penalties, including:
- (a) suspension;
 - (b) placement upon a negotiated contract between student, parent/caregiver and the College; or

(c) expulsion, withdrawal of enrolment, or negotiated transfer of the student.

6.5 The Principal may also refer a breach of this Policy to SAPOL, inviting them to:

- (a) attend the College to seize a Prohibited Substance; or
- (b) otherwise intervene as SAPOL sees fit.

7 Related Documents and References

- Cabra Dominican College Personal Responsibility Policy
- Cabra Dominican College Student Handbook
- [Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia](#)
- [Illicit Drug Laws South Australia](#)
- [Tobacco and e-cigarette laws South Australia](#)

8 Revision Record

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