ALCOHOL, SMOKING AND SCHOOLS POLICY

DIOCESE OF WAGGA WAGGA

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<tr>
<td>Policy Name</td>
<td>Alcohol, Smoking and Schools Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicability</td>
<td>All Schools</td>
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<td>Contact Person</td>
<td>Director of Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Status</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of Approval</td>
<td>April 2010</td>
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<td>Date Last Amended</td>
<td>December 2013</td>
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| Related Policies/Documents | • Drug Education Policy  
                           | • Guidelines for Drugs in Schools |
| Review Period: | 2018 |
ALCOHOL, SMOKING AND SCHOOLS POLICY

SMOKING:

Rationale

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga are committed to maintaining healthy work environments for all employees and to complying with their duty under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (NSW) to provide a safe working environment. To protect the health of all employees from the effects of tobacco smoke, the system of schools has adopted a policy of providing smoke-free workplaces. This applies to all systemic schools and the Catholic Schools Office.

Supporting Statement

Legal advice provided to the Diocese is that smoking should be banned in all schools. Responsible employers must be concerned both to protect staff, students and visitors from the dangers of passive smoking and to assist staff members who smoke and wish to quit the habit. This position confirms the original policy statement issued on the 3rd of September, 1992.

Smoking is not permitted on school property in any school in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. Staff who smoke outside the premises should not do so near public entrances and should ensure that they dispose of cigarette butts and other litter carefully.

Smoking is also not permitted on any Catholic Schools Office property. Staff who smoke outside the premises should not do so near public entrances and should ensure that they dispose of cigarette butts and other litter carefully.

ALCOHOL AND SCHOOL PREMISES:

Rationale

This policy describes mandatory procedures for schools regarding the possession and consumption of alcohol on school premises and during school activities outside the school, and sets out the requirements of the Liquor Act 1982, in regard to alcohol and school events.

Policy Statement

This policy covers the possession and use of alcohol, by employees, students, visitors and other people on school premises and at functions conducted by schools (including those outside school premises) at anytime when school students, from any school, are present.

The consumption of alcohol is not permitted at any school function at anytime when school students, from any school, are present.
Supporting Statements

- Alcohol must not be consumed or brought to school premises during school hours (this applies to employees, students and visitors and other people who use school premises).
- Community groups may be permitted to consume alcohol on school premises outside school hours, following approval by the principal.
- Alcohol cannot be supplied to, consumed by, or served by people who are under 18 years of age.
- Alcohol can only be sold for a school function held outside school hours if the school has obtained a Liquor License for that specific function.

Implementation

- Principals are responsibility for implementing the policy and managing any related incidents in schools.
- Principals are responsible for ensuring the school rules and consequences about the possession and use of alcohol at school by students, employees and visitors are made known.
- Principals are responsible for ensuring that the policy about alcohol use on school premises and at school functions by visitors is made known to the school community.
- Teachers are expected to support the implementation of this policy.

Definitions

A school function is any function organized by the school and/or in the name of the school and applies to all types of functions including dances, farewells, sporting fixtures and barbecues.

Relevant Legislation and Documents:

- Liquor Act 1982
- Public Health Act 1991
- WH&S Act 2011
- Department of Gaming and Racing “End of Year Functions and Alcohol Checklist”
- Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Wagga Wagga Overnight Excursions Policy and Procedures

Alan Bowyer
Director of Schools

December 2013