

Drugs & Alcohol Policy

The use of drugs will not be condoned at St Thomas's School. Students will be made aware of the legal and health consequences resulting from their use.

In this policy:

- **Drugs** are defined as chemicals that alter mood and/or behaviour. They include, but are not limited to illegal drugs, non-prescribed drugs, alcohol, solvents, nicotine, and cannabis.
- **School** is used for any occasion at school, on location at a school camp, or on any occasion at which the student is representing the school.

Guidelines:

1. The school will abide by the laws of New Zealand that relate to the possession, supply and use of drugs.
2. No student shall consume, use or carry drugs at school; on any school trip; at any school function; or after school while in school uniform.
3. No staff member, adult or student will be permitted to possess, supply, consume or use any illegal, non-prescribed drugs while at school, at any school function or on any school trip.
4. No staff member, adult or caregiver will be permitted to possess, supply or consume alcohol while on any trip or EOTC activity.
5. All reports of drugs, alcohol and other illicit substances in the school must be promptly and rigorously investigated.
6. Appropriate intervention strategies will be used should there be concerns regarding drug use by any members of the school community. These may involve notification to parents and caregivers, or the appropriate community agencies (such as Police, Public Health Nurse).

Ratified by Board	
Signed	
Date	15/6/21