

23.DRUGS

Drugs Policy

James Hargest College promotes and endorses a drug free environment. Staff, students and parents will be informed of the school's procedures for the management of drug-related incidents as appropriate.

Tobacco

- James Hargest College recognises that smoking and passive smoking constitute a significant risk to health. James Hargest College is a tobacco-free site, as per New Zealand law.
- Students are not permitted to use or possess tobacco at school, at school functions or while engaged in school-related activities such as camps, sports, cultural and field trips or while identifiable with the school. Students accompanying other students who are smoking may be deemed as being involved with tobacco use.
- Smoke-free signs and notices are displayed in appropriate places throughout the school.

Vaping

- Vaping products of any type are likewise not permitted at school, as per tobacco use above.

Alcohol – All Students

- Students are not permitted to possess, consume or encourage the consumption of, or be under the influence of alcohol. This applies during school-hours, including lunchtimes, and to and from school, whilst on the school site; whilst at a school function or part of a school activity or school trip and whilst they can be identified with the school, e.g. in uniform or sports uniform, etc.

Alcohol – Staff

- Staff are expected to act as responsible role models with respect to alcohol.
- Consumption of alcohol in any situation where the staff/adults are responsible for the supervision of students is not permitted.

Inhalants

- No persons are permitted to inhale or otherwise ingest a solvent whilst on school premises, at school functions or engaged in school-related activities such as camps, sports and cultural field trips or while identifiable with the school.
- Students and staff are not permitted to inhale or otherwise ingest or be under the influence of a solvent during recognised school hours.

Illicit Drugs

- Students and staff are not permitted to be under the influence of, to possess, consume or supply any illicit drugs or drug-related objects during recognised school hours whilst on school premises, at school functions or while engaged in school-related activities such as camps, sports, cultural and field trips or, any situation which could be reasonably regarded as being under school jurisdiction.

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- In the event of any student appearing to be under the influence of an illicit drug, a school representative may seek medical advice for clarification. The ~~parents/~~caregivers should be informed and the police may be notified.
- Any illicit drugs confiscated from students will be given directly to the Principal, who will either destroy them or hand them over to the Police at the earliest opportunity.

Note: Possessing, using and/or supplying illicit drugs and/or psychoactive substances are regarded as a serious matter by the James Hargest College Board of Trustees.

Drug and Alcohol Education

- James Hargest College will provide students with appropriate education about drug issues to ensure that students are informed about drugs and drug related issues, the implications of drug use and the possible harm to themselves and the community.
- Qualified teachers who are trained to teach drug education will deliver the drug and alcohol programme through the Health and PE courses adhering to National Curriculum Guidelines. Programmes will be regularly evaluated and reviewed by the teacher in charge of Health and PE.
- Intervention programmes will be offered to students who are identified as being at risk or who request help including smoking cessation, alcohol and drug prevention and cessation programmes.
- Professional help, either from school counsellors or through referral to outside agencies, will be available for any member of the school community (staff and students) with drug related problems. These problems may involve the abuse of drugs by the individual or by people close to them.

Sanctioned medication use:

- Students who need to use prescribed medication within school jurisdiction must have the approval of a ~~parent or~~ caregiver. As required, information will be passed on to teachers involved with students who are taking sanctioned medication.
- Students who take prescription medication daily (during school hours) will have their medications stored and dispensed by appropriate staff.

Ratified by Board of Trustees

8th March 2023

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