



COOLUM BEACH CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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Alcohol, Tobacco & Illicit Drugs Policy

Purpose:	The purpose of this policy is to prevent the possession, use, sale and distribution of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs and related implements by staff and students whilst attending College or at a school-related activity	
Scope:	All staff and students, including those aged 18 years and staff, staff and students and parents	
Status:	Approved	Supersedes: new
Authorised by:	College Governing Body	Date of Authorisation: 1 Oct 2024
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 (Qld)• Liquor Act 1992 (Qld)• Australian Privacy Principles• College Staff of Conduct Policy• Coolum Beach Christian College Enrolment Contract	
Review Date:	Every 2 years	Next Review Date: 1 Oct 2026
Policy Owner:	College Governing Body	

Policy Statement

Coolum Beach Christian College has a zero-tolerance policy towards student use, possession, sale and distribution of alcohol, tobacco, Vaping and illicit drugs and related instruments whilst attending College or at school-related activities or when representing the College.

Action plan

If Coolum Beach Christian College becomes aware, or reasonable suspects, that a student has alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs at the College or at a College-related activity, the College will take the following action, as appropriate in the circumstances:

- Firstly, ensuring the safety of the student/s concerned.
- Confiscate the substance and/or implement if appropriate.
 - Apply appropriate procedures regarding search and seizure. Check with Principal if unsure.
- Interview the student/s.
- Contact the student/s' parents.
- Report the matter to the police if appropriate.
- Offer appropriate support to any student involved in the matter.

- Normally, staff and students or staff accused of possessing illicit material will be suspended from the College during the investigative phase of the investigation.
- Natural justice principles will be followed including due process to all parties involved.
- Implement any other consequences or actions that might be appropriate in the circumstances, including possible disciplinary action or suspension.
- Consider the need to communicate the incident to employees, staff and students and parents, taking into account the privacy of the student/s and family concerned, the *Australian Privacy Principles* and the duty of care the College owes to other staff and students.

Reporting to College:

Any member of the community can report to either:

- Principal – Ken McAllister
- Wellbeing Officer – Ken Holloway
- Staff teacher

All staff who receive a report must make sure the Principal is informed.

Reporting to Police

Coolum Beach Christian College will report relevant matters to the Police when it is in the student's or College community's best interests, as well as when:

- When the possession or use of the illicit material is potentially contravening the law.
- a student is alleged trafficking drugs in the College or College related activities.

Searching and confiscating property

In accordance with Coolum Beach Christian College's Enrolment Contract the College will search a student's property, including lockers and bags, and may confiscate banned items, when it believes it is appropriate in the circumstances.

When items have been confiscated, Coolum Beach Christian College will take the following action:

1. if the police have been involved in the matter, give it to the police.
2. if items are found it will be the discretion of the Principal and Parents, by mutual agreement, if they should return it to the student.

Definitions

- **Illicit drugs:** are taken to include illegal drugs and related implements, as well as legal drugs and substances being used for non-medical (i.e. recreational) purposes.

Examples would include cannabis, dexamphetamine used for non-medical purposes and inhalants such as spray paints.

- **Vaping:**
- Vaping on College premises or at or College related activities, is a serious violation of College policy and may not be brought onto or used onsite by any person. It not only undermines the integrity of the educational environment but also poses significant health risks to staff and students. The use of vapes, which often contain nicotine, can lead to addiction and other health complications. The College has a responsibility to maintain a safe and healthy learning atmosphere, and as such, staff and students caught vaping will be addressed promptly. The consequences will include parental notification, and may lead to suspension, and mandatory participation in health education programs that highlight the dangers of vaping. While the matter is being investigated a suspension from the College is usual practice at the college It's crucial for staff and students to understand the implications of their actions, not only on their health but also on their academic and personal development.

Responsibilities

College Responsibilities

Coolum Beach Christian College acknowledges its responsibility to:

- Develop and implement this Policy to help ensure the safety of staff and students.
- Publish this Policy to staff and students , parents and staff.
- Keep appropriate records, monitor and report on any issues related to the use, possession, sale or distribution of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug or related implements at the College or at College-related activities.
- Encourage staff and students, parents and Staff to contribute to a healthy College culture.

Staff Responsibilities

At Coolum Beach Christian College, Staff have a responsibility to:

- Uphold the College's Policy on this issue.
- Staff to keep up to date with the policy and their responsibilities.
- Student will adhere to the Enrolment process agreement.
- Student Code of Conduct.
- Staff Code of Conduct.
- Report matters to line managers or Principal.
- Staff will implement the policy and educate staff and students about policy.
- Try to prevent and appropriately respond to any instances of use, possession, sale or distribution of alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs or related implements at the College or at college-related events, in accordance with this Policy and other relevant Coolum Beach Christian College policies.

Parent Responsibilities

At Coolum Beach Christian College, parents have a responsibility to:

- Read and understand, and ensure their child reads and understands, this Policy.
- Ensure, as far as possible, that their child does not use, possess, sell or distribute alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs or related implements at the College or at college-related events.

Student Responsibilities

At Coolum Beach Christian College, staff and students have a responsibility to:

- Not use, possess, sell or distribute alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs or related instruments whilst at College or attending school-related activities.
- Familiarise themselves with the Policy.
- Report to the Principal or staff any knowledge of other staff and students conduction/using sell or distribute alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs or related instruments whilst at the College

Implementation

- Distribute Policy to all staff.
- Publish on MyCool and College website.
- Implement consequences for non-compliance.
- Address violations promptly and take corrective actions
- Matters will be addressed by the College leadership in alignment with the College values and the Code of Conduct.