



Alcohol, Smoking Products & Illicit Drugs (Students) Policy

Purpose:	The purpose of this policy is to prevent the possession, use, sale and distribution of alcohol, smoking products, illicit drugs and related implements by students whilst attending school or at a school-related activity.	
Scope:	<p>This policy covers all students, including those aged 18 years and over, when they are attending school or a school-related activity.</p> <p>Brisbane Boys' College employees, volunteers and contractors are bound by the requirements of the PMSA Code of Conduct and the PMSA Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy.</p>	
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 (Qld) • Liquor Act 1992 (Qld) • Privacy Act 1988 • BBC Complaints Policy and Procedure • BBC Student Diary • BBC Student Discipline Policy and Procedure • BBC Student Enrolment Contract • BBC Privacy Policy • BBC Work Health and Safety Policy • PMSA Code of Conduct • PMSA Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy • PMSA Employee Complaints Policy and Procedure • PMSA Procedural Fairness (Natural Justice) Policy 	
Authorised by:	Headmaster	Date of Authorisation: 25 th August 2016
Review Date:	Every two years, or as appropriate, to take account of new laws, changes to school's operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing environment.	Next Review Date: 1 st July 2018
Policy Owner:	Headmaster	

Amendment Register

Date of Issue	Page Number	Detail of and reason for amendment
1 st September 2016	All	Endorsed by BBC Executive

PRINT WARNING - Printed copies of this Document or part thereof should not be relied upon as a current reference document. ALWAYS refer to the electronic copy available on the BBC website for the latest version.



1.0 Policy Statement

Brisbane Boys' College takes a strong, proactive stance against student involvement with alcohol, smoking products and/or illicit drugs. This policy is based on principles of harm minimisation and emanates from our objective to have students develop a sense of self respect, self-discipline and responsibility in all areas of their lives. It aims to achieve a balance between the individual rights of the students and the welfare of the Brisbane Boys' College community.

2.0 Policy Objectives

- To best respond to the interests of the student concerned, while respecting the duty of care to other students, employees and members of the BBC community;
- To set in place clear guidelines that outline roles and responsibilities for those dealing with issues related to alcohol/smoking products/drug use;
- To develop and document a comprehensive drug policy that addresses both prevention and intervention in order to respond to such incidents in a planned and coordinated manner.

3.0 Responsibilities

3.1 School Responsibilities

Brisbane Boys' College acknowledges its responsibility to:

- Develop and implement this Policy to help ensure the safety of students.
- Communicate this Policy to students, parents and employees.
- Keep appropriate records, monitor and report on any issues related to the use, possession, sale or distribution of alcohol, smoking products, illicit drugs or related implements at the College or BBC-related activities.
- Encourage students, parents and employees to contribute to a healthy school culture.

3.2 Student Responsibilities

All students at Brisbane Boys' College have a responsibility to always exhibit safe behaviour around the College. This responsibility prohibits students from:

- possessing, consuming or providing smoking products;
- deliberately inhaling volatile substances (solvents);
- possessing, using or providing prescribed drugs for non-medical purposes;
- possessing, using or providing illicit drugs;
- possessing, using or providing smoking products and/or drug related equipment (except in the case of lawful medical use); or
- possessing, consuming or providing alcohol.

3.3 Employee Responsibilities

At Brisbane Boys' College, employees have a responsibility to:

- Uphold the school's Policy on this issue.
- Try to prevent and appropriately respond to any instances of use, possession, sale or distribution of alcohol, smoking products, illicit drugs or related implements at the school or at school-related events, in accordance with this Policy and other relevant BBC and/or PMSA policies.



3.4 Parent Responsibilities

At Brisbane Boys' 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, smoking products, illicit drugs or related implements at the College or at school-related events.

4.0 Process

If Brisbane Boys' College becomes aware of, or reasonably suspects, that a student has alcohol, smoking products or illicit drugs at the school or at a school-related activity, the College will take the following action, as appropriate in the circumstances:

- Firstly, ensuring the safety of the student/s concerned. If, in the reasonable opinion of the relevant staff member, a student's health may be affected by the drug or alcohol in question, medical treatment should be sought for the student/s.
- The Housemaster, Head of relevant Sub-School, School Sergeant, Deputy Headmaster or any other staff member as instructed by the Headmaster may conduct a search of the student's locker, bag and personal effects and confiscate the substance and/or implement if appropriate. When items have been confiscated, the substance or items should be made secure in a place restricted from general access such as a safe or lockable filing cabinet. The substance or items should be labelled with the date, time and location where they were found and the names of all staff who had contact with them.
- Refer the incident, the student/s and the substance immediately to the Headmaster, Deputy Headmaster or Head of relevant Sub-School.
- Interview the student/s.
- Contact the student/s' parents.
- Hold a meeting with the parents to discuss appropriate action.
- Report the matter to the police if appropriate.
- Offer appropriate support to any student involved in the matter.
- Implement any other consequences or actions that might be appropriate in the circumstances, as outlined under the BBC Student Discipline Policy and Procedure.
- Consider the need to communicate the incident to employees, students and parents, taking into account the privacy of the student/s and family concerned, the provisions of the BBC Privacy Policy and the duty of care the College owes to other students.
- Keep accurate records of the incident and all action taken.

5.0 Reporting to Police

Whilst Brisbane Boys' College is not legally required to report a student's possession (or alleged possession) of alcohol, smoking products or illicit drugs to police, the College will report relevant matters to Police when it is in the student's or the College community's best interests, as well as when:

- a student is trafficking drugs in the school
- a student is incorrigibly taking drugs in the school
- a student is found to be in possession of drugs in the school



6.0 Searching and Confiscating Property

In accordance with Brisbane Boys' College's Student Enrolment Contract the College may search a student's locker, bag and property where it is reasonable to do so or as part of a general random search of a place where the College conducts its activities, and may confiscate banned and/or illegal items.

When items have been confiscated, Brisbane Boys' College may take the following action:

1. if the police have been involved in the matter, give it to them;
2. if the substance is inherently dangerous, destroy it;
3. if possession of the substance is illegal, destroy it;
4. if none of the three scenarios above applies, give it to the student or to those who are responsible for the student.

The College will not provide any compensation for confiscated property.

7.0 Drug Education Program

The Brisbane Boys' College Drug Education Program is underpinned by BBC's value-led approach to authentic pastoral care and our commitment to take a whole- of-school approach to our boys' wellbeing. The programme has three inter-related components:

1. Education
2. Referral and Counselling
3. Intervention

7.1 Education

The education component of the program has been framed within the wider context of encouraging and assisting students to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Since direct and indirect exposure to alcohol, smoking products and drugs is inevitable in modern society, students will be provided with information which is accurate and relevant, as well as the personal skills to enable them to make responsible decisions about issues related to their health.

The education program will also extend to parents and staff. It is the responsibility of all parents and staff of the College to treat the use of alcohol, smoking products and illicit drugs as a serious problem and to support the College policy at all times. Parents and staff will be made aware of drug education programs and resources being used in the College.

7.2 Referral and Counselling

The pastoral care system which exists in the College provides a structure for referral and counselling. Specialist support for students, parents and staff is provided by the Chaplain, Associate Chaplain and Student Counsellors.

7.3 Intervention

All staff have a legal and professional responsibility to respond to information about, and incidents involving students' use or possession of alcohol, smoking products and/or illicit drugs on College property or at a College-related activity.

Brisbane Boys' College may take action, under the BBC Student Discipline Policy and Procedure, against any individual when a breach of this policy is identified.



8.0 Implementation

Brisbane Boys' College endeavours to take all reasonable steps to prevent the use, possession, sale and distribution of alcohol, smoking products and illicit drugs and related implements at the College and at BBC-related activities including:

- Awareness – BBC regularly raises awareness of the risks of student use of alcohol, smoking products and illicit drugs, including by the development and implementation of an appropriate policy in combination with the supporting Drug Education Program delivered to students and parents as part of the curriculum.
- Encourage students, parents and employees to contribute to a healthy school culture by:
 - communicating clearly to parents the rationale and implementation of the College Drug Education Program.
 - educating parents and employees with regard to:
 - (a) the current attitudes and behaviour of young people in relation to drugs
 - (b) the key issues that students face in this area
 - making parents aware of the various forms of support available, both inside and outside of the College.
 - regularly educate and train employees appropriately on how to manage any breaches of this policy.
- Record keeping, monitoring, reporting – keep appropriate records, monitor and report on student alcohol, smoking products and illicit drug use.

9.0 Definitions

'Alcohol' means liquor as defined in the Liquor Act 1992 (Qld)

'Enrolment Contract': includes an authorisation from the enrolling parties to allow Brisbane Boys' College to search lockers, bags and property of the student enrolling. It also contains consent from the enrolling parties to the confiscation of forbidden or dangerous property.

'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.

'Parent' – means a parent or other person having legal custody of a student. Reference to a parent includes reference to a guardian for the student.

'Smoking Product' - means a tobacco product, herbal cigarette, loose smoking blend, electronic cigarettes, also known as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, vape pens or personal vaporiser, or personal vaporiser related product.