



KIRWAN STATE HIGH SCHOOL

ALCOHOL POLICY

Rationale

Alcohol is governed by the Liquor Act 1992 and cannot be sold to children under 18 years of age. Alcohol and other drug issues confront all communities in some way. Effective responses should consider the individual young person, peers, family, school and the wider community. Schools, parents and the wider community all have a role to play in reducing the harm that can arise from alcohol and other drug use.

Responsibilities

Students

Students must not bring items onto school grounds or other settings used by the school that:

- is prohibited according to the school's Prohibited Items Policy;
- is illegal;
- puts the safety or wellbeing of others at risk;
- does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive or productive learning environment; and
- does not maintain and foster mutual respect.

Parent/Carers

Parents/Carers must ensure their student does not bring items onto school grounds or other settings used by the school that:

- is prohibited according to the school's Prohibited Items Policy;
- is illegal;
- puts the safety or wellbeing of others at risk;
- does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive or productive learning environment; and
- does not maintain and foster mutual respect.

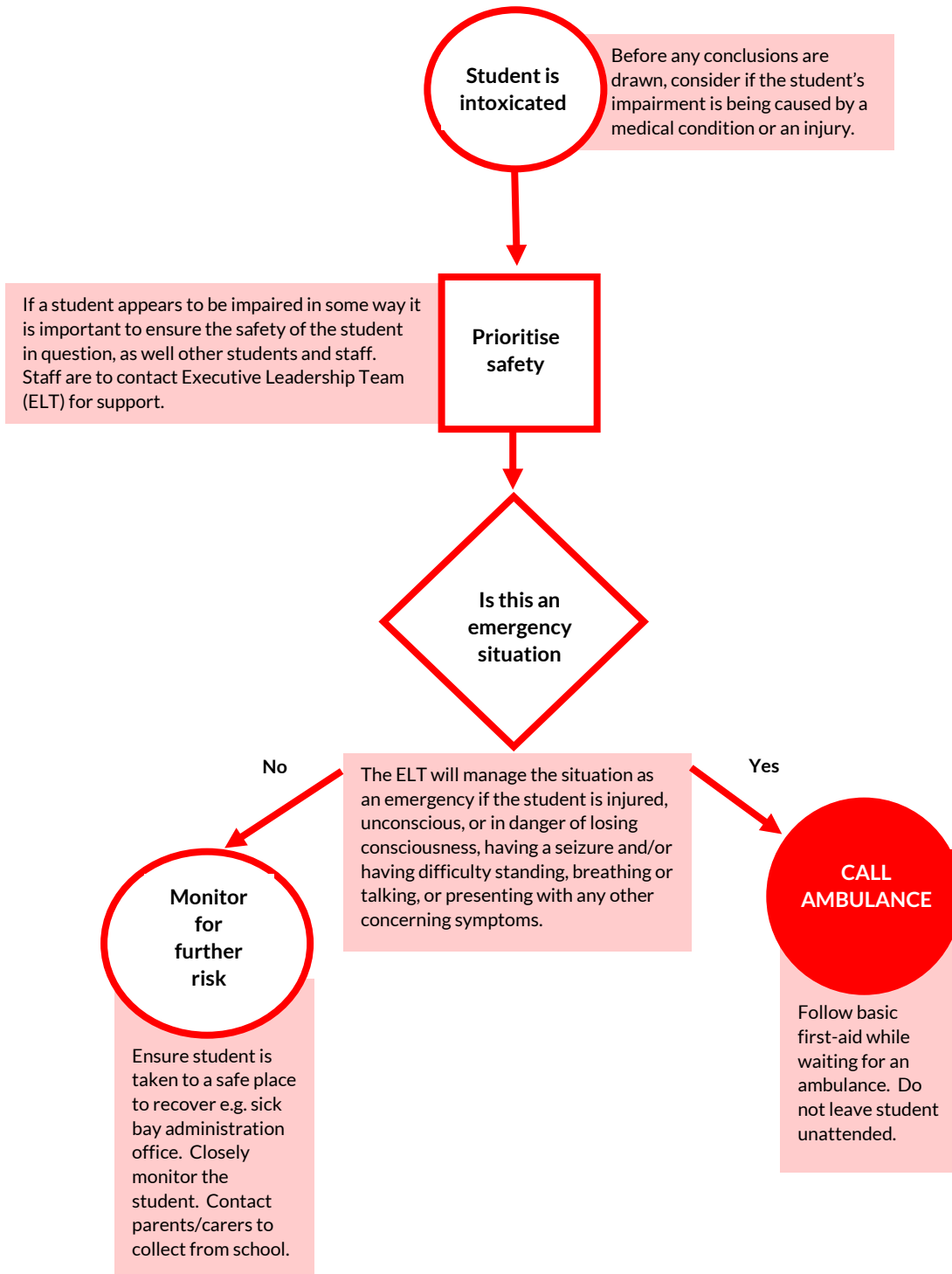
School

Kirwan State High School will:

- create a safe, respectful and engaging environment by ensuring the consistency of policies and procedures
- provide education programs to students about the culture, attitudes and social expectations of alcohol consumption, including the risk of binge drinking, illicit drug use, and alcohol and other drug related violence
- inform parents/carers of school policies and procedures.

Staff must follow school policies and procedures.

Possession under the influence of/distribution of alcohol



Consequence Guidelines

Alcohol is a prohibited item as outlined in the school’s Student Code of Conduct and Prohibited Items Policy.

The aim of the response is to support the student to remain engaged in their education, assist the student to overcome any problems relating to alcohol and other drug use, as well as ensure the ongoing safety of other students and staff.

Follow-up response by ELT

Consult with school support staff

A support plan may be developed for the student using the resources of available school support staff. Establish a key worker and ensure they will be available to follow up with the student. This may include referral to School Based Youth Health Nurse (SBYHN) for counselling/education.

Meet with parent/carer, student and key worker

Schedule a meeting with the student, parent/carer and key worker to review the support plan and discuss any feedback and concerns. Present plan to Executive Principal who will consider individual circumstances in relation to behaviour consequences.

Is a behaviour management strategy required?

Yes

Behaviour consequence

There are a variety of behaviour management strategies which may include restorative practices, short or long term suspensions and possible exclusion. If a suspension occurs a support plan may be developed upon re-entry. See below guide.

No

Follow-up support

Disengagement from school is a known risk factor for problematic alcohol and other drug use. Therefore, it is important to ensure students involved in an alcohol and other drug incident are engaged in follow-up support. Good follow-up support utilises school staff, as well as relevant community service providers in order to ensure the student remains connected to an educational or vocational pathway.

Monitor and review

Conduct timely reviews of the support plan with the student, their parent/carer and key worker. Ensure the goals of the support plan are still relevant to the needs of the young person and all relevant parties are taking appropriate steps to achieve these goals.

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Consideration of Individual Circumstances

Staff at Kirwan State High School consider students' individual circumstances, such as their behaviour history, verified disability, diagnosed mental health and wellbeing, religious and cultural considerations, home environment and care arrangements when teaching expectations, responding to inappropriate behaviour or applying a disciplinary consequence. Kirwan State High School responds to inappropriate behaviour with a restorative approach.

In considering the individual circumstances of each student, we recognise that the way we teach, the support we provide and the way we respond to students will differ. This reflects the principle of equity, where every student is given the support they need to be successful. This also means that not everyone will be treated the same, because treating everyone the same is not fair. Our staff are also obliged by law to respect and protect the privacy of individual students, so while we understand the interest of other students, staff and parents to know what consequence another student might have received, we will not disclose or discuss this information with anyone but with the student and their family or caregivers. This applies even if the behavioural incident involves your child. You can be assured that school staff take all matters seriously and will address them appropriately. We expect that parents and students will respect the privacy of other students and families.

If you have concerns about the behaviour of another student at the school, or the way our staff have responded to their behaviour, please make an appointment with a member of the ELT to discuss the matter.

Help and Support

Kirwan State High School Based Youth Health Nurse - appointments can be made via the office or email: SBYHN@kirwanshs.eq.edu.au

Townsville Community Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATODS)
Monday to Friday: 8 :00am to 4:00pm
35 Gregory Street North Ward
Phone: 07 47 789677 or 24/7 – 1300 64 22 55

Consultation

The Kirwan State High School Alcohol Policy was developed in consultation with the school community, including:

- Teaching and non-teaching staff;
- Student Representative Council;
- Parents & Citizens (P&C); and
- School Council.

Review

The Kirwan State High School Alcohol Policy will undergo annual minor updates to reflect changing circumstances, data and staff.

A fulsome review is conducted in line with the scheduled review process for the School Planning, Reviewing and Reporting cycle.

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Endorsement

The Kirwan State High School Alcohol Policy has been informed by:

- Education (General Provisions) Act 2006;
- Department of Education: Student Discipline Procedure;
- Kirwan State High School Student Code of Conduct;
- Kirwan State High School Prohibited Items Policy;
- Kirwan State High School Temporary Removal of Student Property Policy;
- Queensland Health: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/staying-healthy/atods/alcohol/the-law>; and
- Dovetail, A best practice guide to policy, prevention and planning for Alcohol and Other Drugs in Schools;
- Department of Education Code of Conduct for Staff; and
- Kirwan State High School Student of Conduct.

Endorsed by:



Heather Murry
Executive Principal



Bella van Krieken
School Captain



Yohann
Abordo
School Captain



JJ Taylor
P&C President



Rick Phineasa
School Council Chair

SUPPORT PLAN (Sample)

Area for Improvement	Strategies / Actions	Who is involved? Resources?	Timeframe / Review
<p>Area for Improvement</p> <p>On the audit sheet you may have answered "not at all" or "room to improve" to some of the questions. Details those here so that you can plan to address them.</p>	<p>Strategies / Actions</p> <p>What strategies and actions will you implement to address the identified area for improvement?</p>	<p>Who is involved? Resources?</p> <p>Identify key staff involved and their roles and responsibilities. What resources do you need to carry out your actions?</p>	<p>Timeframe / Review</p> <p>Set a timeline for completing the task. Also set a review date as it is important to assess whether the activity is going as planned.</p>