Upper Swan Primary School

School Drug Education Guidelines

Our Vision

At Upper Swan Primary School, we believe that drug education is integral to the well-being of our students. We aim to provide a safe and supportive environment for the school community. We endeavour to engage the whole-school community in our drug education initiatives and are committed to providing our students with drug education and necessary related intervention across all year levels.

Our School Commitment

Our School Drug Education Guidelines are consistent with the Principles for School Drug Education. The guidelines promote a whole-school approach to drug education where school staff, students, parents and the wider-school community work together with the aim of preventing and reducing potential and existing risks of harm from drug use, to establish and maintain a safe school environment.

Our guidelines have been developed in consultation with staff, students, parents and community members to address drug education and necessary related interventions in a caring and consistent manner within the Upper Swan Primary School community.
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Curriculum

- Our three-year drug education plan identifies age-appropriate drug education content across all year levels.
- We use evidence-based drug education resources such as Challenges and Choices (www.sdera.wa.edu.au) and You Can Do It resilience education program.
- School administration supports staff to deliver appropriate drug education by allowing in-school time for planning, providing professional development opportunities for staff and allocating funds for resources and materials.
- Classroom programs focus on skill development and develop students’ knowledge and understanding, attitudes and values and promote help-seeking behaviour.
- A minimum of three hours of drug education per term is provided to all students across each school year.
- Learning is extended from the classroom to promote parent support of drug education programs (e.g. through the use of take-home activities).

Ethos and Environment

- A Pastoral Care Leadership Team with representatives from the teaching and administration staff, school health service staff and parents is supported.
- Drug education is included in whole-school planning.
- All students have the opportunity to participate in drug education programs and initiatives.
- School Drug Education Guidelines are reviewed on an annual basis in consultation with the school community.
- School administration supports staff attendance at professional development to broaden their understanding and enhance their confidence in working well with drug use issues.
- We have developed and implemented Procedures for Incident Management and Intervention Support and these have been communicated through the whole-school community as a part of the School Drug Education Guidelines.

Parents and Community

- Parents and families are involved in drug education initiatives.
- Drug education information and strategies for parents and families are provided on a regular basis through a variety of methods such as the newsletter, website and at school assemblies.
- SDERA’s Connect (www.sdera.wa.edu.au), is used to identify resources and agencies that support and complement our school drug education initiatives.
- Orientation packs to new staff members and families include our School Drug Education Guidelines.
- A dedicated health and well-being week is held annually and includes a focus on drug education.