



CROYDON SDS

School Bus Drug and Alcohol Policy

This policy applies to bus drivers when they are driving or about to drive a school bus. It also applies to staff supervising students on the bus.

A bus driver must not have drugs or alcohol present in his or her blood or breath immediately before or while driving a bus.

In addition, staff driving school buses must be responsible for managing the effects of substances they may be taking (including prescription medicines). If unsure please discuss this with your medical practitioner.

Procedure

As a member of our school staff, you have obligations under the drug and alcohol management policy. It is recommended that you:

- read all the labels on your medicines and never use other people's medicines
- discuss with your health professional to understand how any medicines may affect your ability to perform your job
- inform your health professional of your obligations under the drug and alcohol management policy, especially before being prescribed new medicine
- discuss alternative medicines to those which have potential effects.

Health professionals include:

- General practitioners (GPs)
- Medical specialists (e.g. psychiatrists)
- Dentists
- Pharmacists
- Alternative health professionals (e.g. Naturopath).

Staff should speak to the Principal or Assistant Principal if they have any queries about the policy, or if they are impaired by alcohol and/or drugs.

Key Definitions

A drug is any substance (other than alcohol) that deprives the person of normal mental or physical faculties (permanently or temporarily).

In the context of school staff, this includes drugs that affect:

- mental alertness
- vision
- coordination
- reaction to situations.

These effects can increase the risk of mistakes or cause an incident or accident. The broad definition of drugs means that they include prescription medicine, over-the-counter medicine, common tranquillisers or stimulants, herbal remedies, or illicit drugs. For a non-exhaustive list of drugs, please refer to the [Victorian Government Gazette No 108 25 June 2002 \(PDF, 389.94 KB, 16 pp.\)](#)

Alcohol may impact a person's normal mental or physical faculties. Like other drugs, this can increase the risk of mistakes or cause an incident or accident. Combining alcohol and drugs may increase this risk significantly.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2025
Approved by	Assistant Principal: Judith McDonald Principal: Christine Pillot

Next scheduled review date	February 2026
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