



MODULE OVERVIEW

This module outlines a best practice, whole school approach to alcohol and other drug (AOD) education. It highlights that drug education plans should be inclusive of procedures for incident management and intervention support. This guides appropriate intervention for students when drug use behaviour is identified or suspected.

Illustrations of whole school drug education plans are provided along with working procedural flowcharts for addressing student AOD use.



LEARNING INTENTIONS

At the end of this module you will:

- understand what makes effective school drug education
- be aware of the value of working from whole school drug education plans and how to develop these
- be clear on the benefits of having procedures for incident management and intervention support included in whole school drug education plans
- understand what these procedures look like and how they can guide consistent and inclusive responses to student AOD use that are protective of staff, students and the broader school community.



KEY MODULE UNDERSTANDINGS

1.

BACKGROUND TO A WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH

A comprehensive, whole school approach is widely acknowledged as best practice when working holistically to promote student health and wellbeing.

The Health Promoting Schools Framework (Diagram 1), developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) 2011 encourages a whole

school approach to addressing health issues. The framework consists of three areas:

1. Curriculum, teaching and learning.
2. School organisation, ethos and environment.
3. Partnerships and services.

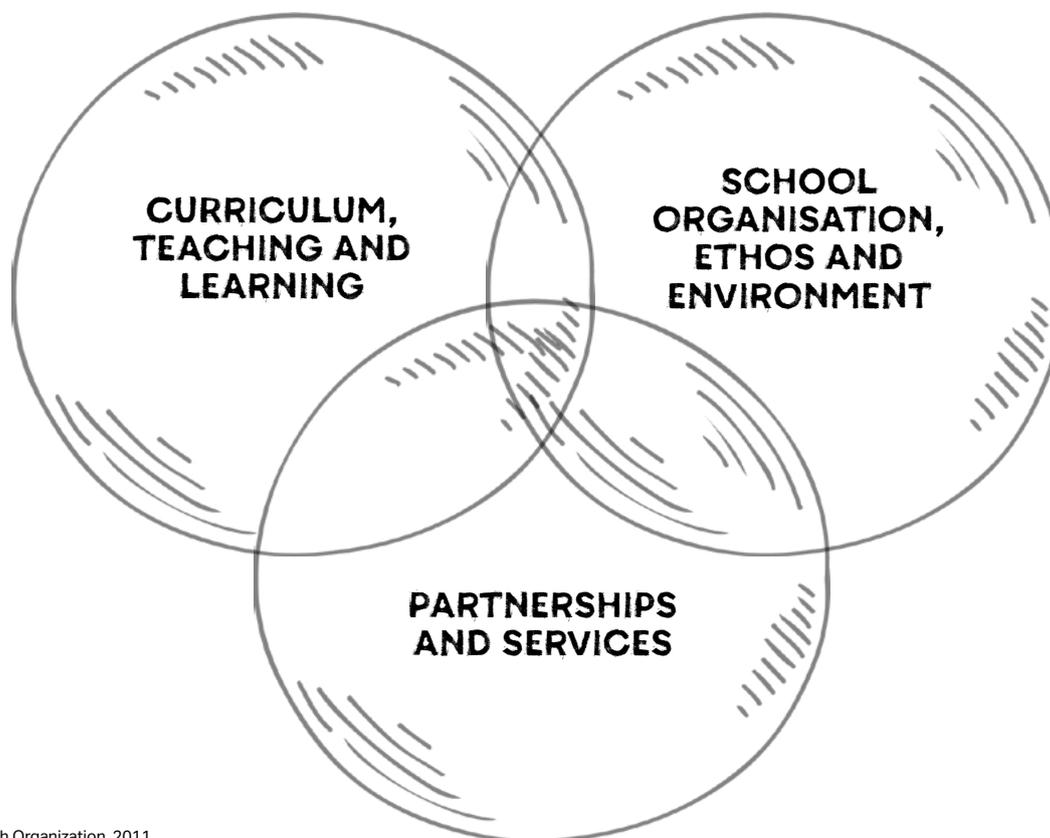
Based on theory and research, the *Principles for School Drug Education* (Meyer & Cahill, 2004) illustrate a multi-layered approach and framework of core concepts and values that support best practice drug education.

Image 1: Principles for School Drug Education



http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au/media/1324/princsschooldrugged_full-document.pdf

Diagram 1: Health Promoting Schools Framework (WHO, 2011)



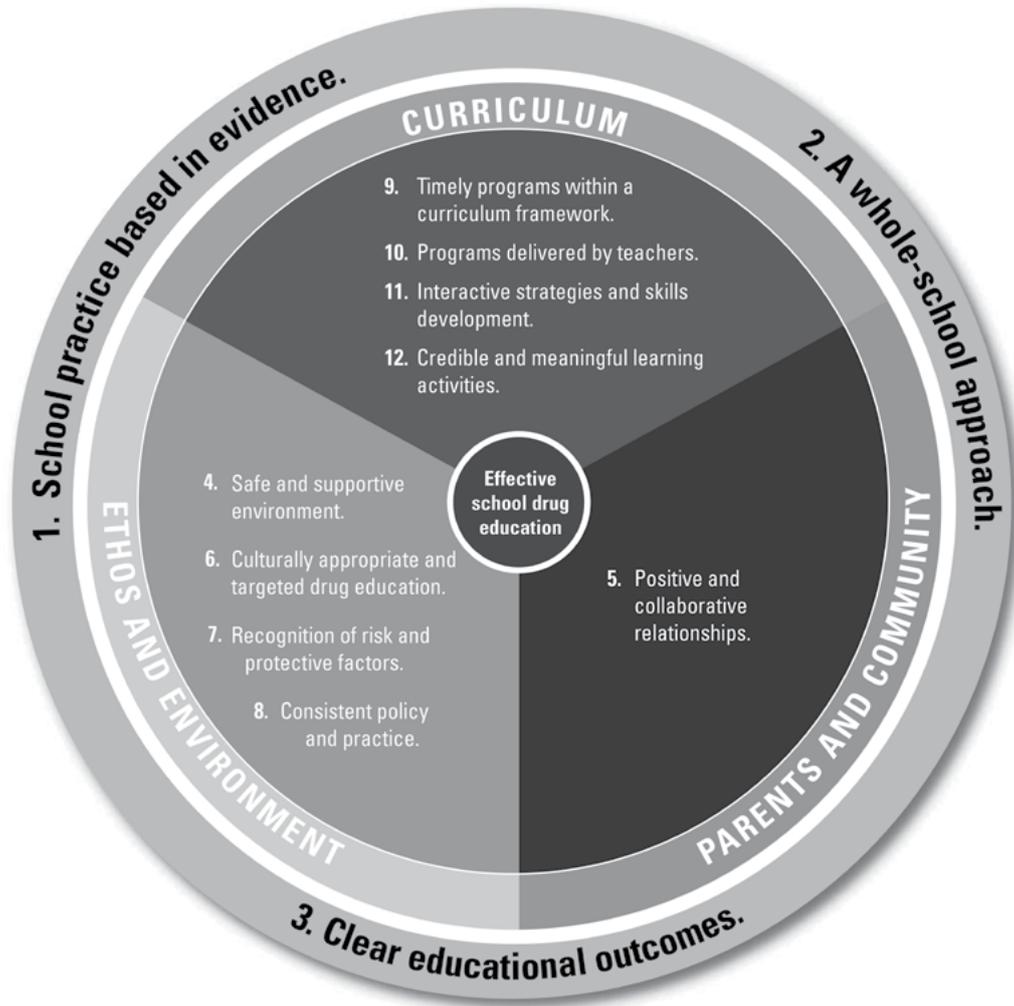
Source: World Health Organization, 2011

WRAPAROUND

DEF: A PHILOSOPHY, A PROCESS, AN APPROACH. AN INTENSIVE, HOLISTIC METHOD OF ENGAGING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING ISSUES RELATED TO ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUG USE.



Diagram 2: Effective School Drug Education Model



The Effective School Drug Education Model demonstrates how the 12 *Principles for School Drug Education* fit within the three areas of the *Health Promoting Schools Framework* to illustrate a best practice, whole school approach to drug education.

Effective school drug education involves:

- provision of interactive, developmentally appropriate, classroom based prevention education and extension of learning through to the family
- ensuring that staff, students and parents understand the school's approach to AOD prevention education, incident management, and early intervention processes and practices

- relationship building and engagement with community support agencies who can support staff, students and parents with early intervention, counselling support and matters involving the law
- strengthening the support measures in place across the school to ensure a protective school environment.



2. WHOLE SCHOOL DRUG EDUCATION PLANS

Having a whole school plan for drug education allows staff, students and parents to be aware of and involved in the school's approach to preventing risks of harm from drug use across the whole school community. They encourage a shared commitment to prevention education and early intervention that strengthens relationships between staff, students and parents.



Further information on whole school drug education plans can be found on pages 27-32 of *Getting It Together (GIT)*. <http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au/media/1310/getting-it-together-drug-education.pdf>

“SDERA can assist schools to develop whole school drug education plans.”

Image 2: Whole School Drug Education Plan examples

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Our Vision

At Healthwise College 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 Healthwise College community.

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 *RED* resources (www.sdera.gov.au).
- 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 deepening students' knowledge and understandings, 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 abundant from the classroom to promote parent support of drug education programs (e.g. through use of social media activities).

Ethos and Environment

- A School Drug Education Leadership Team with representatives from the teaching and administration staff, school health service staff, students 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 part of the School Drug Education Guidelines.

Parents and Community

- Parents and families are included 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.

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Incident Management and Intervention Support

The following Incident Management and Intervention Support flow charts illustrate the steps which will be taken in the event of a drug use incident or issue. Should you wish to contact school personnel in the regard, contact details are provided.

Incident Management Procedures to follow

Intervention Support Procedures to follow

Note: At this point, the Incident Management flow chart included in this resource (in page 47) should be included in the guidelines. Schools should use the flow chart provided on the CD-ROM to insert and illustrate the steps that will be taken specific to their school.

Note: At this point, the Intervention Support flow chart included in this resource (in page 57) should be included in the guidelines. Schools should use the flow chart provided on the CD-ROM to insert and illustrate the steps that will be taken specific to their school.

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In the event of a drug use incident or where a student requires intervention for a drug use issue, the steps outlined in our flow charts for Incident Management and Intervention Support will be followed. In summary:

- the parents will be notified by appropriate personnel.
- the Principal will consider notifying police if illicit drug use is suspected.
- both students and parents will be offered support through appropriate interventions.
- the incident or issue will be documented and other relevant agencies involved.
- request will be given to privacy and confidentiality by and for all parties.
- the health and well-being of all parties involved will be given priority.

Healthwise College does not permit students while on school premises, at any school function, excursion or camp to:

- smoke and/or possess tobacco products
- consume, possess or be affected by alcohol
- possess and/or use pharmaceutical drugs for non-medical purposes
- possess and/or use volatile substances
- possess and/or use illicit drugs
- possess and/or use drug related equipment, with the exception of for intended legitimate medical use.

All school staff should confirm the procedures regarding the administration of medications.

School contacts

Principal – Mr David Harper (08) 1234 5671
 Deputy Principal – Mrs Kate McGregor (08) 1234 5672
 School Health Nurse – Ms Caitlin Jack (08) 1234 5673
 Student Services Co-ordinator – Ms Ben Lenton (08) 1234 5674
 School Psychologist – Dr Ann Koh (08) 1234 5675
 School Drug Education Leadership Team (08) 1234 5676
 Mrs Maggie Brady (08) 1234 5677
 Mr Drew Miller (08) 1234 5678
 Ms Joyce Franklin (08) 1234 5679
 Mr Arif Anumagan - First Aid qualified (08) 1234 5680

Useful contacts and information

School Drug Education and Road Aware (SDERA)
 (08) 9264 4743 www.sdera.wa.edu.au

Alcohol and Drug Information Service (ADIS)
 (08) 9442 5000 or 1800 198 024 (Toll Free)

Parent Drug Information Service (PDIS)
 (08) 9442 5050 or 1800 683 203 (Toll Free)

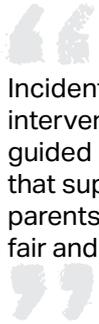
Community Drug Service
 (08) 1234 5681

Local Police Station
 (08) 1234 5682



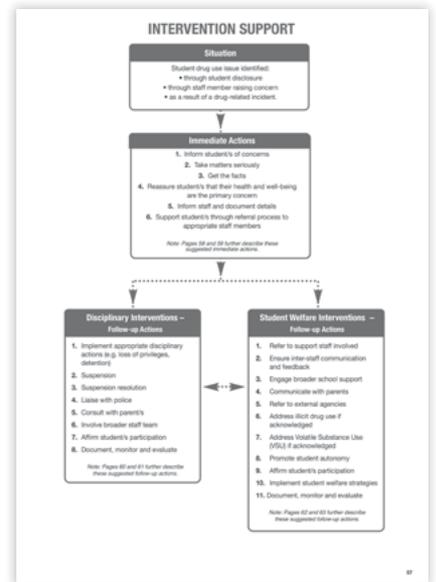
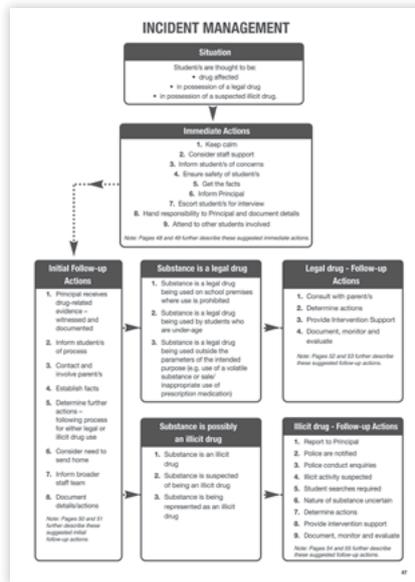
3

PROCEDURES FOR INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AND INTERVENTION SUPPORT



Incident management and intervention support should be guided by purposeful processes that support students, staff and parents to work together towards fair and productive outcomes.

Image 3 & 4: Procedures for incident management and procedures for intervention support



Incident Management is the structured response to AOD use incidents at school and should be actioned alongside appropriate intervention support.

Intervention Support is the structured provision of assistance to students identified as being at risk of drug use, or who disclose, demonstrate or are suspected of AOD use behaviour.

All staff have a role in early intervention thus all staff need to know the process of referral and support that is documented in these procedures. For early intervention to be most effective schools should have these procedures in place.

SDERA can assist schools to develop procedures for incident management and intervention support.



Working effectively with AOD use means that responses to student drug use behaviour should not lead to marginalisation or stigmatisation. Punitive responses are not productive and can lead to negative outcomes. It is important that procedures illustrate the steps that staff should follow in order to provide consistent, inclusive responses that address the drug use behaviour and promote a continued connection to school.

Further information and illustration of procedures for incident management and intervention support can be found on pages 46 to 63 of *Getting It Together (GIT)*. <http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au/media/1310/getting-it-together-drug-education.pdf>

Any drug education plan must include procedures for incident management and intervention support. Developing and documenting these procedures is essential to ensure that student AOD use is addressed in a coordinated and consistent manner.

When all staff are aware of these procedures and of their own roles within them, they can complement the management and support strategies of their colleagues. This enables staff to engage in providing appropriate intervention and support to students as fits with their job role in the school.

A specific procedural flowchart for working to address volatile substance use (VSU) can found within the Wraparound Intervention Toolkit.



TAKE AWAY MESSAGES

- ① → **Effective school drug education involves a whole of school approach.**
- ② → **Whole school drug education plans guide a coordinated approach to prevention education and reducing the harms from AOD use.**
- ③ → **Procedures for incident management and intervention support promote a consistent, inclusive response to AOD use issues and enhance connection to school.**
- ④ → **SDERA can help ALL schools to develop whole school drug education plans and procedures for incident management and intervention support.**



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THIS MODULE

LINKS TO SDERA RESOURCES	LINKS TO EXTERNAL RESOURCES
<p>Getting It Together (GIT) Whole school drug education plans and procedures for incident management and intervention support http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au/media/1310/getting-it-together-drug-education.pdf</p>	<p>MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION Community Alcohol and Drug Services https://www.mhc.wa.gov.au/getting-help/community-alcohol-and-drug-services/</p>
<p>Changing Health Acting Together (CHAT) Further information about SDERA's CHAT program http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au/resources/whole-school-approach/chat-resources/</p>	
<p>SDERA Connect – A statewide directory of AOD support services for schools and community http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au/resources/primary-resources/connect-a-directory-of-drug-education-support-services-for-schools/</p>	
<p>WRAPAROUND INTERVENTION TOOLKIT</p>	
<p>WRAPAROUND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOPS</p>	

REFERENCES

- Meyer, L., & Cahill, H. (2004). *Principles for school drug education*. Australian Government: Department of Education, Science and Training, Canberra.
- World Health Organization (WHO). (2011). *What is a Health Promoting School?* Geneva, Switzerland.

Wraparound is a collaborative effort between SDERA and the Western Australian education sectors and has been proudly funded by the Mental Health Commission.

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