

# CONFISCATIONS

## POLICY

### Rationale:

- Students may at times bring to school items that are dangerous, unlawful, harmful or detract from the smooth running of the school. At times, it is appropriate, or the school's duty to confiscate such items.

### Aims:

- To ensure the ongoing safety of students and staff members
- To ensure that the law, and/or Student Code of Conduct are consistently upheld
- To ensure all student's rights are protected and preserved.

### Implementation:

- A principal may ban certain items from being brought onto school premises which the principal reasonably believes are likely to be used in a threatening, violent or harmful manner.
- This policy focuses upon the lawful temporary confiscation of items brought to school by students that are of annoyance and distraction. Matters relating to the seizure of dangerous or unlawful objects from students, and the conduct of searches for banned items are outlined in the 'Student Searches' policy.
- The school will provide clear broad guidelines to students and parents as to the types of objects that are not desired at school and the justifications as to why they are banned.
- Students who are in possession of banned objects at school, or who use acceptable items in an unacceptable way, can expect to be asked to temporarily surrender the object to the staff member and collect it from the staff member or the school office at the end of the school day.
- At times, it may be more appropriate that parents or police collect the confiscated items.
- In all cases where items are confiscated, the security of those items rests with the staff responsible. For confiscating the item. As soon as practicable, confiscated items should be given to the parents (for example, cigarettes), to the police (for example, weapons, illegal drugs), or returned to the student (for example, jewellery, mobile phones) at the end of the day.
- Students who do not voluntarily surrender objects after a reasonable request from a staff member to do so will be immediately referred to the assistant principal.
- Consequences for having items confiscated, or for failing to comply with a reasonable instruction to hand over an object for confiscation, will be managed in a manner consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.
- Staff members will not forcibly take objects from students or conduct random or non-consensual searches, unless the staff member forms the belief that the student, other students or staff are in imminent danger. Then immediate action may be taken to prevent injury to the student or others, while police, the principal and parents are contacted – see 'Student Searches' policy for detail.

### Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

**August 2014**