

Searching Students and Confiscation Policy



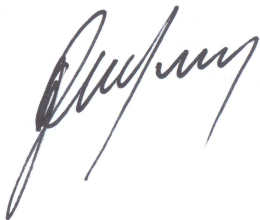
Rationale

The College is committed to providing a safe physical and emotional environment for its students and staff. This policy is to provide the Board and senior leaders with a practical framework when the need arises to search a student and their belongings at school or to confiscate dangerous, illegal or inappropriate items that a student may bring to school.

Rosehill College is usually a safe place, but from time to time a very small number of students may carry items that pose a risk to themselves or to others.

Guidelines

1. The Board delegates the right to conduct searches of students and their possessions to the Principal and other members of the senior leadership team.
2. Searches of students may be undertaken when the school's senior leaders are responding to issues which they believe may cause students or staff harm.
3. Searches will be undertaken in a reasonable way, taking into account the circumstances and the characteristics of the student.
4. Searches of a student will involve their outer clothing only.
5. A search does not require a student's consent; senior staff will not need to seek a student's consent before they instruct them to co-operate with a search.
6. A search may include searching a student's 'correspondence', including written and electronic equipment, and may include a student's bag and school locker.
7. If there is a serious risk to safety the senior leaders of the school will retain the option of calling the Police to take appropriate steps.
8. The Principal will make staff, students and parents aware of the school's search and confiscation policy and practices.
9. Except in exceptional circumstances senior leaders will inform parents or caregivers after a search has been conducted.
10. If dangerous items or illegal drugs are found during a search the police will be contacted and such items will be given to the police.



Signed for the Board of Trustees

15 September 2011

Date Ratified