1. **RATIONALE**
   Illegal drug use by students (including the misuse of prescription medication) increases the risk of injury to the students themselves and to others, as well as impairing the ability of students to respond appropriately in an emergency.

2. **APPLICATION**
   Students may not have in their possession or use any non-prescription drugs, tobacco products, alcohol or solvents on the school campus or at any function, excursion, camp or tour organised by the School or in which the student participates as a representative of the School.

3. **POLICY**
   St Hilda's is committed to providing a safe environment for all our students, staff and broader community.

   It is our Policy that:
   - The use, possession and supply of non-prescription drugs and drug paraphernalia, tobacco products, alcohol and solvents by students is strictly prohibited
   - All students will receive age appropriate health and drug education to enable and support them to make informed choices, and to minimise the harm associated with drug use
   - Referrals to counselling and support groups will be provided to students with drug related problems

4. **GUIDELINES/PROCEDURES**
   4.1 **Non-Prescription Drugs**
   4.1.1 In respect of a First Offence, the student will be suspended from all school activities after advice to parents/guardians. This could include in-school suspension. During the period of suspension, the student will be required to complete appropriate drug education activities. Parents/guardians and the student will be required to attend an interview with the Principal prior to the student’s readmission to the School according to conditions determined by the Principal. One condition will be the requirement for the student to attend a preventative program and/or counselling.

   4.1.2 In respect of a Second Offence, the student will be expelled from the School after advice to parents/guardians. Counselling may be offered at the Principal’s discretion.
4.2 Tobacco Products

4.2.1 In respect of a First Offence, parents/guardians will be notified by the Dean of Students and a letter/email sent to the parents/guardians. The brochure *Your Child and Smoking* will be sent to the parents/guardians. The student will be required to attend an interview with the Dean of Students and the Principal at which she will be reminded of the prohibitions in relation to tobacco products and the consequences if further incidents occur. Counselling and *stop smoking* assistance will be arranged for the student. The penalty for the First Offence will be a detention after school hours.

4.2.2 In respect of a Second Offence, the student will be suspended from all school activities after advice to parents/guardians. Boarding students will not be able to remain in the Boarding House for the duration of the suspension. During the period of suspension, the student will be required to complete appropriate smoking/drug education activities. Parents/guardians and the student will be required to attend an interview with the Principal prior to the student’s re-admission to the School on such conditions as the Principal decides.

4.2.3 In respect of a Subsequent Offence, it is likely that the student will be expelled from the School after advice to parents/guardians. Counselling may be offered at the Principal’s discretion.

4.3 Alcohol

4.3.1 In respect of a First Offence, the student will be suspended from all school activities after advice to parents/guardians. This could include in-school suspension. Boarding students will not be able to remain in the Boarding House for the duration of the suspension. If the Offence is detected at a function or off campus activity, the parents/guardians will be required to immediately remove the student from that function. Parents/guardians and the student will be required to attend an interview with the Principal prior to the student’s re-admission to the School on such conditions as the Principal decides. One condition will be the requirement for the student to attend a preventative program and/or counselling.

4.3.2 In respect of a Second Offence, the student will be suspended from all school activities after advice to parents/guardians. Boarding students will not be able to remain in the Boarding House for the duration of the suspension. During the period of suspension, the student will be required to complete appropriate alcohol education activities. Parents/guardians and the student will be required to attend an interview with the Principal prior to the student’s re-admission to the School on such conditions as the Principal decides.

4.3.3 In respect of a Subsequent Offence, it is likely that the student will be expelled from the School after advice to parents/guardians. Counselling may be offered at the Principal’s discretion.

4.4 Solvents

4.4.1 In respect of a First Offence, parents/guardians will be notified by the Dean of Students and a letter/email will also be sent to the parents/guardians. The student will be required to attend an interview with the Dean of Students and
the Principal at which she will be reminded of the prohibitions in relation to solvents and the consequences if further incidents occur. Counselling will be arranged for the student. The penalty for the First Offence will be three detentions after school hours and additional sanctions may also apply in the case of a boarder.

4.4.2 In respect of a Second Offence, the student will be suspended from all school activities after advice to parents/guardians. Boarding students will not be able to remain in the Boarding House for the duration of the suspension. During the period of suspension, the student will be required to complete appropriate drug/solvent education activities. Parents/guardians and the student will be required to attend an interview with the Principal prior to the student’s re-admission to the School according to conditions determined by the Principal.

4.4.3 In respect of a Subsequent Offence, it is likely that the student will be expelled from the School after advice to parents/guardians. Counselling may be offered at the Principal’s discretion.

5. BREACH
If a student breaches this policy she may be subject to disciplinary actions.

6. RELATED POLICIES
Student Behaviour Management Policy
Health Policy

Responsibility: Dean of Students
Review Date: June 2015
Next Review Date: June 2017