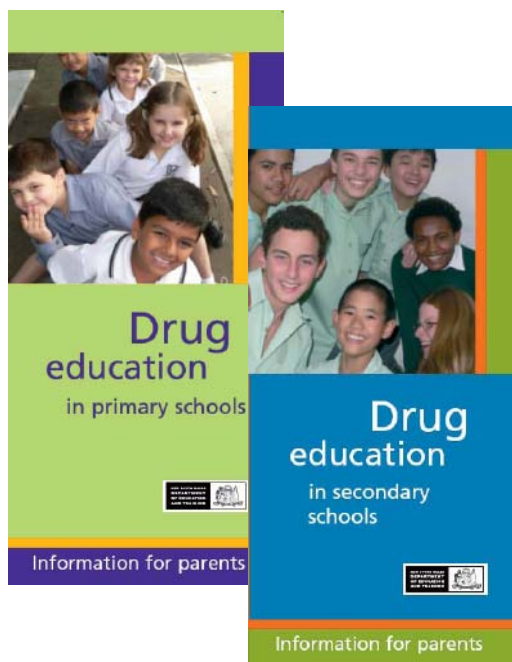


## Drug Prevention Programs *Update*

Welcome to the first issue of *Update* for 2007. Many exciting things are on the drug education drawing board and we look forward to sharing this news with you throughout the year.



Sometimes parents/carers ask teachers and principals why it is important for their child to take part in drug education. At these times you might like to provide parents/carers with copies of the pamphlets, *Drug education in primary schools* and *Drug education in secondary schools*.

The pamphlets provide an overview of why drug education is important, what is taught, and rules concerning drugs in schools. Links to websites and relevant agencies are also provided for parents/carers wanting more information on drugs.

Copies of the pamphlet are available by telephoning 02 9266 8455 or email [donna.l.wright@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:donna.l.wright@det.nsw.edu.au)

The pamphlets have also been translated into 20 languages [www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/index\\_d.htm](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/index_d.htm)



### Welcome to the following new members of the Drug Education Team

Mark Franks – Special Initiatives Officer, State Office  
 Paul Garufi – Drug Education Consultant, Sydney Region  
 Michael Hooker – Drug Education Consultant, New England Region  
 Julie Walker – Cannabis Education Officer, State Office

In 2007, make sure you get to know your drug education consultant. Consultants are available to assist you with your drug education programs and resources. Contact details are available at:

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/directorates/studequi/drugeduc/support/welcome.htm> OR [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/drugeduc/contacts.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/drugeduc/contacts.php)

### The 2005 Australian Secondary Students' Alcohol and Drugs (ASSAD) Survey

There was a decrease in alcohol use among secondary school students, with **fewer students having tried alcohol** in 2005 (87%) than in 2002 (90%) and 1999 (90%).

Cannabis remains the most commonly used illegal drug amongst secondary school students. However, there has been **a decrease in the number of 12-17 year olds who reported using cannabis**.

2005 – 17.8%    2002-25%    1999 -29.3%

There has been a **major decrease** in the number of secondary school students who have ever **smoked a cigarette** in 2005 (35%) compared to 2002 (46%) and 1999 (56%).

#### Myth buster

Contrary to popular belief the number of 12-17 year olds who have reported trying any illicit drugs (excluding cannabis), such as amphetamines and ecstasy has declined.

2005 - 8%    2002 - 11%    1999 - 13%

Full reports are available at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/drugeduc/research.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/drugeduc/research.php)

**drug info @ your library** (formerly known as di@yll) provides up-to-date information about alcohol and drugs through local public libraries in New South Wales. Visit your local library to check out the new **drug info @ your library**. (website [www.druginfo.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.druginfo.sl.nsw.gov.au))



**Did you know.....** Since 15 December 2006, police have had powers to carry out **ROADSIDE DRUG TESTING** on any driver, rider or supervising licence holder in NSW.

### Which drugs are tested for?

- Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the active component of cannabis
- Methylamphetamine, also known as speed, ice, crystal meth, or base
- Methamphetamine (MDMA), also known as ecstasy

### How does road side drug testing work?

- The driver will be required to lick the test pad of the device. A result will be known in about five minutes.
- If the driver tests negative they will be able to drive away.
- If the driver tests positive they will have to go with a police officer to provide a second oral fluid sample in the police support vehicle which should take about 20 minutes.
- If the driver tests positive again they will not be charged at this time, however, they will be prohibited from driving for 24 hours. The remaining portion of the second sample will be sent to a laboratory for confirmatory analysis.
- If the presence of one or more of these three drugs is confirmed by the laboratory, the offender will receive a Court Attendance Notice within a few weeks of the roadside drug test with the charge of driving with the presence of an illicit drug.



For information on penalties refer to the RTA website

[www.rta.nsw.gov.au/rulesregulations/penalties/serioustrafficoffences/alcoholanddrugs.html](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/rulesregulations/penalties/serioustrafficoffences/alcoholanddrugs.html)

## Resource review



*Healing Time, Stages 2 and 3* (2002) addresses tobacco issues within an Aboriginal framework and aims to engage students, staff and the school community.

The resource is written from the perspective of an Aboriginal family who live in an urban, multicultural context but is appropriate for all students. Each teacher's manual includes six lessons, Dreaming stories and a narrative. *Araluen's story* (Stage 2) and *David's story* (Stage 3) are used to explore the effects of smoking, decision making, rules and consequences through the eyes of Aboriginal children and their families.

Stage 2 has a particular focus on passive smoking and the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000. Stage 3 focuses on the effects of smoking, reasons for not smoking and advocacy skills.

Check out more resources at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/druged/index.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/druged/index.php)

**Tell us** if you have any innovative teaching ideas, good resources or useful websites that we can share with others, please email details to [drug.prevention@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:drug.prevention@det.nsw.edu.au).

**Employment opportunities:** Information about drug education consultant positions and state office positions are available online at jobs@det ([www.det.nsw.edu.au/jobs/Logon?Command=GoToHome](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/jobs/Logon?Command=GoToHome)). For additional information please contact Tracey Cross at [tracey.cross@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tracey.cross@det.nsw.edu.au) or by telephone on 02 9244 5561.

**Feedback:** If you no longer wish to receive notification about *Update* please send an email to [drug.prevention@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:drug.prevention@det.nsw.edu.au) and enter the words 'delete me from your list' in the subject line.