

## Term 4, 2007 Drug Prevention Programs *Update*

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### *What's happening in drug education?*

Meet the new members of the Drug Prevention Programs team:

- Tracey Cross** – Manager, Drug Prevention Programs  
**Justine Abell** – Drug Education Consultant, Hunter Central/Coast Region  
**Stephanie O'Malley** – Drug Education Consultant, South Western Sydney Region  
**Jo-Anne Fahey** – Program Officer, Drug Education, Aboriginal Support  
**Lyndall Fitzgibbon** – Program Officer, Commonwealth Initiatives  
**Rachel Franks** – Administrative Support Officer
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### *What's happening in drug education at your school?*

#### *Host your own drug education forum!*

Funding is still available to schools to support the active participation of students in health promotion activities which focus on preventing or minimising drug related harm.



Have you considered these ideas for your forum?

- Kindergarten orientation
- Year 7 orientation
- parent meetings
- peer support programs
- SRC projects
- public speaking and debating

More information can be found on the forum website:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/druged/forums/index.php> or by contacting Drug Prevention Programs on 9266 8354.

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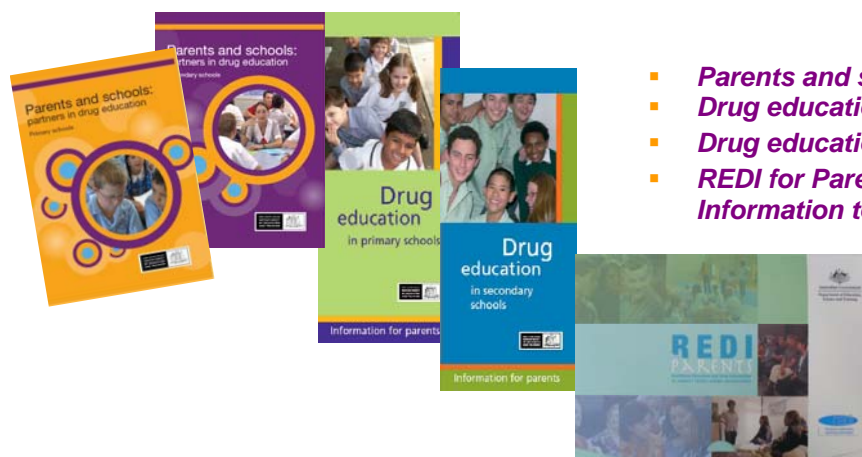
### *What's happening with The Critics' Choice?*

More than 16,000 entries were received this year! The winners for 2007 will be drawn on 31 October. Check out the website to find out the most popular advertisements and this year's winners.

[www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/criticschoice/index.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/criticschoice/index.php)



### *Involving parents in school drug education: Some resources to help you. . .*



- **Parents and schools: partners in drug education resource**
- **Drug education in primary schools**
- **Drug education in secondary schools**
- **REDI for Parents: Resilience Education and Drug Information to support family-school partnerships**

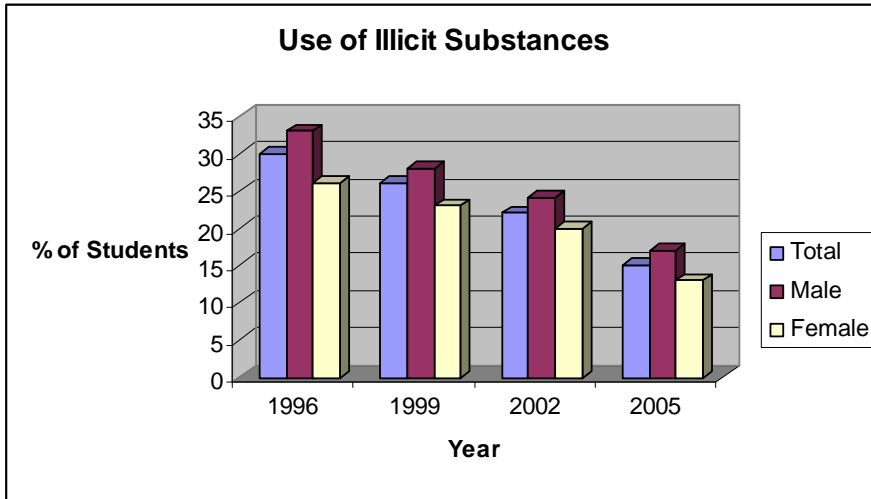
To obtain copies of these resources phone 02 9266 8260 or email [rachel.franks@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rachel.franks@det.nsw.edu.au)

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## *Information about students' use of illicit substances:*

### *A fall in the percentage of students using illicit substances*

Recently there has been significant media attention to drugs in schools and drug use by school students. The latest Australian secondary school students' use of over-the-counter and illicit substances in the 2005 report indicates the following:



The proportion of students who had used any illicit substance had declined substantially between 1996 and 2005.

Among 12 to 15 year olds there was a significant decrease in the proportion of students using any illicit substance in their lifetime from 30% in 1996 to 15% in 2005 including a significant decrease between 2002 (22%) and 2005 (15%).

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%; and 1999 - 13%

For more information on Australian secondary school students' use of over-the-counter and illicit substances have a look at the 2005 Report which can be found at:

[http://www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au/internet/drugstrategy/publishing.nsf/Content/DB31984A46E05D8BCA257225001137F5/\\$File/mono60.pdf](http://www.nationaldrugstrategy.gov.au/internet/drugstrategy/publishing.nsf/Content/DB31984A46E05D8BCA257225001137F5/$File/mono60.pdf)

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## *What's happening with you?*

### **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 is 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 phone on 02 9244 5561.

### **Feedback:**

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

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Check out our website for all of our resources, latest statistics and pamphlets.  
<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/yrk12focusareas/druged/distribres.php>