

'Kick-It' at Massey High School

Massey High School's Alternative Action Programme to Support a Drug-Free Learning Environment

Key Points:

- Massey High School (MHS) strongly defends a **drug-free learning environment**.
- The aim of the Kick-It programme is to stop the illegal use of drugs by students at MHS and to promote health and well-being.
- Kick-It is a voluntary alternative to disciplinary proceedings for certain students involved in drug-related offences while enrolled at MHS.
- Kick-It is a 12-month-long programme whereby the student agrees to participate in a programme of health and well-being.
- Kick-It is run in partnership with the NZ Police. It is a community response to a community problem; the success of KickIt relies on many people.
- Kick-It is a programme that can...
 - hold students accountable for their drug-related misdemeanours
 - provide an opportunity for these students to learn that there may more useful ways of coping with some of life's adversities
 - support students towards improved self-management so they may reach their potential personally and academically.

What Kick-it involves:

- The student's Dean will communicate with the student and their family/whanau following a drug offence.
- The student will be asked to undergo a health assessment (HEEADDSSS) with a school nurse prior to the Kick-It Meeting; this comprehensive health assessment is used to guide the level of intervention and other support.
- The Kick-It meeting will take place at MHS with the student, their parent/caregiver, the Principal, the Community Constable and a representative from Student Support Services.
- Should there be agreement; the Kick-It contract will be signed. Immediately after the meeting, the student is required to present themselves at the school Health Centre for a drug test. NB: Parents will be informed of the drug test results each time by letter and will receive a copy of the lab report.
- There are two distinct options within Kick-It: a lower or higher level intervention. The level of intervention will be decided upon by staff members when they have taken all relevant information into account.
- The Kickit contract runs for 12 months. The key components of Kick-it are counselling and drug testing.

Shared Responsibilities:

- Success of the Kick-it programme requires active participation by the student and family/whanau.
- It is expected that parents/whanau communicate regularly with the school in terms of any in-school or out-of-school challenges that are relevant to the students participation in Kick-It.
- There is expected to be a useful and respectful level of transparency in terms of any KickIt-related outside agency support.
- It is expected that parents/whanau take actions that show the prioritising of health and well-being; this to include noticeable engagement with, and support for, attendance and academic learning.

Progress Not Perfection:

- The success of Kick-It is contingent upon the readiness and willingness of the student and family/whanau to engage in the support offered.
- We believe health and well-being to be a journey of progress not perfection; when the work is done, there is repeated longer-term success for the majority of students on the Kick-It programme.
- By actively involving the family/whanau and sometimes wider community in response to the student's drug use, it is hoped that the student is less likely to transgress again and that any steps taken towards the recovery of well-being are sustainable.
- Greater involvement of family/whanau in this programme is also an opportunity to uphold and honour the existing capacities that will always be there within the family/whanau.

For further information about Kick-it, please contact MHS Student Support Services



KickIt Contract
School and Police Alternative Action Plan

