

## Firearms

### 5.13

#### Rationale

The policy outlines the use of firearms, or associated activities, related to Waiuku College. Waiuku College's position is clear that:

- real firearms are banned from the Waiuku College site at all times, with the exception of their use in pest destruction/control outside school hours and for this to occur only after obtaining special dispensation from the Board of Trustees.
- our students may use real firearms off-site for training purposes; to obtain NCEA credits, and/or as part of the Waiuku College shooting team.
- imitation firearms can be used on site, under strict supervision, in designated and agreed areas as part of a Services Academy course.

#### Requirements

1. A firearm is anything from which any shot, bullet, missile or other projectile can be discharged by force or explosion. It includes anything that has been adapted so that it can discharge any shot, bullet, missile or other explosion by force or explosion.
2. Immediate supervision means that the licensed person is within reach and in control of the person using a firearm or airgun. The person providing the supervision must be able to take control of the firearm or airgun. The supervisor cannot be in possession or control of another firearm or airgun.
3. Possession means that the possessor has complete physical control over it and knows of its existence.

#### Guidelines

1. It is an offence for anyone to possess a firearm unless they are:
  - (a) over 16 and a holder of a current firearms licence.
  - (b) under immediate supervision of a current firearms licence holder at all times.
2. It is an offence for anyone to possess an airgun unless they are:
  - (a) 18 years and over and a holder of a current firearms licence.
  - (b) under immediate supervision of a current firearms licence holder at all times.
3. No real firearms are permitted to be on College property.
4. A firearm may be used for pest control but the operator **MUST**:
  - (a) have Board permission to carry out this task.
  - (b) have a current firearms licence which must be sighted by Waiuku College approved personnel, photocopied and then placed with the application.
  - (c) sign in and sign out of the school premises, even outside of school hours. Someone **MUST** know that they are on site.
  - (d) Neighbours and Police must be informed of the pest control activity before final permission is given.

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5. Students are involved with the use of firearms off-site and mock firearms on-site under two situations:

(a) The Services Academy

The Services Academy is under the guidance of the High Wire Trust and students are under their control when handling firearms and mock firearms. Any student who is enrolled in this course will be dealing with firearms as part of the course and this policy pertains to them.

The Services Academy will ensure that:

- i. A letter is sent home to parents/caregivers outlining the standards being offered; what students are expected to do/demonstrate throughout the units; who will deliver and how it will be delivered; the relevant qualifications of the personnel involved and a permission slip verifying their consent for both the imitation rifle use for marching/ceremonial drills and the off-site programme (an obvious process for any EOTC learning opportunity) whereby students handle real firearms, demonstrate safe procedures within dry fire scenario and live fire of x75 rounds.
- ii. A copy of the Health and Safety procedures of where the students will be shooting is included in the RAMS forms.
- iii. A copy of the Firearms licences of the people who are in immediate supervision is included in the RAMS forms.
- iv. Students will (on top of, and separate to, the requirements for US 24102) demonstrate knowledge of the Firearms Code and behavioural expectations in order to complete a "College Firearm Safety Contract/Licence", including reference to signed warnings of inappropriate behaviour and the possibility of having this revoked and the privilege of using both imitation and real firearms removed.
- v. The NZ Firearms Code and its seven principles are the underlying protocols for all learning with both imitation and real rifles. This will be evident within the culture, expectations and learning environment developed by the classroom teacher during all lessons.
- vi. The importance and significance of handling both imitation and real firearms will be embedded within students before any contact with either resource – the first 5 weeks of Term 3 are set aside for theoretical components of this.
- vii. Services Academy will use imitation firearms at certain times.

A maximum of x 20 imitation rifles will be stored on school site. Imitation rifles will be stored in a locked case/cupboard/room clearly labelled and locked.

Imitation rifles will only be used within the school confines for marching and ceremonial drill practice.

Imitation rifles will be counted out and counted back at the beginning and end of each lesson. A register will be kept recording this and rifles will be numbered – an accounting system.

Imitation rifles will be confined to the parade ground (sealed Tennis courts by the Gym). These will not be visible in any other areas around school unless with prior permission from the Principal.

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Imitation rifles will not be used for any battle scenarios. They are only for the practice and demonstration of ceremonial foot drill.

Students are not to take photos of imitation rifles or the use of imitation rifles.

viii. For real rifle use:

No real firearm, of any type, will be brought onto College grounds, with the exception of unloaded shotguns, which may be brought onto the school property for the purpose of sports team photo for the shooting team. The firearm must be under the control and supervision of the licence holder for this event.

A PowerPoint presentation is offered as an alternative to real shooting.

Normal EOTC procedures will apply for proposed programme of both dry fire and live fire activities. EOTC forms, RAMS and appropriate attached documentation will be submitted within expected timeframe.

A ratio of 1:1 will be followed at all times, regardless of dry fire or live fire scenarios, between an adult with a firearms licence and a student using a real firearm.

Students will only use a .22 calibre rifle for the firing of x 75 rounds, necessary for students to demonstrate the criteria required for the unit standard.

(b) Waiuku College Shooting Team

- i. All students who are members of the Waiuku College Shooting team must either have their Firearms licence or must be supervised by a licensed Firearms person.
- ii. A copy of all Firearms licences must be submitted to the person in charge of EOTC.
- iii. The Health and Safety procedures of each shooting range the team attends MUST be included in the RAMS/EOTC forms and be approved before the team can attend a meet.
- iv. There are to be NO firearms brought to school and NO firearms are to be stored on College property.
- v. There is to be NO ammunition brought to, or stored, on school property.
- vi. All EOTC procedures are adhered to before permission is given to the shooting team attending any meet.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees: 21 August 2018