PURPOSE:
This policy is to ensure that students at Kew East P.S. are not exposed to offensive, dangerous or obscene materials while in the care of the school. Any undesirable behaviour, including the introduction of illegal, dangerous and offensive materials, must be prevented from adversely affecting the learning environment or negatively influencing the learning and recreational behaviours of our students.

POLICY STATEMENT:
Illegal, dangerous and offensive materials and behaviours are banned from this school. Curriculum materials and resources used in the school will be appropriate for student’s age group and well-being in social, emotional and moral development. The need to explore issues and ideas relating to any Curriculum area will be relevant to the central issue of education and be conducted with due respect for the student and their parents. The need to explore sensitive issues, such as relationships, drug usage, body image, death and sexuality will be done sensitively while respecting privacy, cultural views, religious and personal beliefs.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
1.1 Curriculum themes and materials will be reviewed annually by Principal and/or Curriculum Leadership Team.
1.2 Where the Principal/School Council considers that a theme or materials might be slightly offensive, parents must be forewarned of - the nature of the material/themes that may be offered - the right of the parents to object.
1.3 Objections will be addressed to the Principal who may refer the matter to the school Council for further consideration.
1.4 If the objection is upheld, the school has an obligation to offer alternative material or themes.
1.5 Students bringing illegal, dangerous or offensive materials to school will be involved in disciplinary action.
1.6 Students who have knowledge that illegal, dangerous or offensive materials have been brought into the school have a responsibility to notify a staff member. Failure to do this may place other students at risk and will lead to disciplinary action.
1.7 Where appropriate parents and/or police will be notified.
1.8 Disciplinary action will be appropriate and determined on an individual basis.
1.9 Students will be expected to have an age appropriate understanding of correct behaviour in regard to offensive, illegal and dangerous materials.
2.0 Specific learning outcomes will be identified and implemented in conjunction with our school’s curriculum program to assist in the development of these understandings.

PARENTS ROLE:
Parents will be informed of the policy. It is requested that parents support the policy and ensure that students do not bring illegal, offensive or dangerous materials to school.

DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THIS POLICY:
Summary Offences Act 1996 – Section 17 1.d
Turning the Tide Documentation
Schools of the Future Reference Guide - Section 6.22 - Department of Education 1996
Executive Memo 98/048: Offensive Materials or Themes: Guidelines for Principals, Head Teachers and School Councils 1998