

SMOKE FREE SCHOOL POLICY

Rationale

Smoking is banned within four metres of an entrance to all primary and secondary schools in Victoria, and within the school grounds.

It is a legislative requirement that each school installs suitable 'No smoking' signs at all entrances to the school grounds.

Aims

- to achieve a smoke free school environment which sends a clear message that a healthy lifestyle does not include smoking
- to ensure a smoke free environment for students, families, staff, volunteers and visitors
- to deliver a clear and consistent message regarding the dangers of smoking by delivering tobacco education in one or more learning key areas of the curriculum as a part of a whole school approach to health and wellbeing
- to provide information to staff and families about the health benefits of not smoking.

Implementation

- Whittlesea Secondary College (WSC) acknowledges the negative health effects of smoking and passive smoking as well as the importance of a smoke free environment which contributes to good health and overall wellbeing.
- The College fully supports the [DET Smoking Ban 2017](#)

Scope

- The ban includes smoking of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and applies to:
 - anyone present on school premises during school hours and after school hours including student, teachers, contractors, parents/guardians or the wider community such as and not limited to, sporting groups
 - all activities that take place on school premises including preschools, kindergartens, outside school hours care, cultural, sporting or recreational activities and school fetes
- e-cigarettes containing nicotine are illegal in Victoria, are not promoted as therapeutic nicotine replacement products, and the short and long term health impacts remain unknown.

College Actions

- Whittlesea Secondary College (WSC) will erect no-smoking signs and enforce the ban to prohibit smoking on school grounds and within four metres of school entrances.
- Staff, families and students will be provided with information about policy requirements through the WSC Communication of School Policies...Policy.
- All school sanctioned events (both on and off the school ground) including camps, excursions, sporting events, fetes and celebrations are totally smoke free.
- Staff and students who smoke will be offered support or help them quit or manage their smoking via referrals to the Health Education Nurse, Quit counselling and/or other health professionals.
- Health information related to smoking will be made available to the school community.
- Smoking paraphernalia will be confiscated and only returned to parents or guardians of students upon request.

- this is inclusive of cigarettes, lighters, tobacco pouches, matches, tobacco rolling paper, e-cigarettes, e-cigarette fluid, pipes and any other device or materials used for smoking.

Consequences for Students Found Smoking

- Year 7-10 students
 - 1st offence: Health Education with School Nurse and parents informed
 - 2nd and subsequent offences: Suspension
- Year 11 & 12 students:
 - Automatic suspension
 - Please note: each student will only receive one Health Education session with the School Nurse.

Supporting Document

- [QUIT Vic Electronic cigarettes in the workplace information sheet](#)

Related Legislation and Policies

- Amendments to the *Tobacco Act 1987*
- *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*
- Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007
- [DET Health Education Approaches](#)
- [DET Smoking Ban 2017](#)
- WSC Communication of School Policies Procedures and Schedule Policy
- WSC Student Engagement Inclusion and Wellbeing Policy

Appendices

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This Policy was last ratified by School Council in: 2017