



SMOKING AND VAPING POLICY

Rationale

Smoking and vaping 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.

Purpose

- 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.

Scope

In Victoria, a person must not smoke or use e-cigarettes on school premises or within 4 metres of any pedestrian access point to school premises.

Inhaling vapour from an e-cigarette is known as 'vaping'. When using an e-cigarette, the user inhales and exhales the vapour, which can look similar to smoking a cigarette.

The prohibition on smoking includes the use of ecigarettes (vaping) and applies whether or not the e-cigarette contains nicotine.

Cigarettes and e-cigarettes cannot be sold to people under 18 years of age.

It is a legislative requirement that schools display suitable 'No Smoking' signs at all pedestrian access points (entrances) to the school grounds.

The legislation defines smoking to include the use of an e-cigarette. In Victoria, a person must not smoke in a motor vehicle if a person under 18 years is also present in the motor vehicle. Smoking and vaping are also not permitted during school events and excursions held off school premises.

Policy

A person must not smoke cigarettes including e-cigarettes (regardless of whether they contain nicotine) within school premises and within 4 metres of any pedestrian access to school premises. Smoking in these places is a fineable offence.

Schools must display 'No Smoking' signs and enforce the ban to prohibit smoking and vaping on school premises (including buildings and grounds) and within 4 metres of school entrances.

The smoking and vaping ban applies to:

- Anyone present on school premises during and outside of school hours including students, teachers, contractors, parents or carers or the wider community, such as sporting groups
- All activities that take place on school premises including pre-schools, kindergartens, outside school hours care, cultural, sporting or recreational activities and school fetes

In Victoria it is illegal for any person aged 18 or over to obtain, possess or use nicotine e-cigarettes, or ecigarette cartridges containing nicotine, or nicotine liquids for use in a vaporiser, without a prescription. It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes to, or buy e-cigarettes for, any person aged under 18 years whether or not the ecigarettes contain nicotine. Whilst it is not unlawful for a person to possess or use e-cigarettes that do not contain nicotine, it is unlawful to use them on school premises or within 4 metres of a school entrance.

Consequences for Breaks School Rules Policies Procedure

SMOKING

OCCASION OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH

1st Educational referral to Adolescent Health Nurse. Head of House to contact parents/guardians.

2nd Parents meeting required and possible suspension.

3rd Possible suspension via Principal Consultation.

Related Legislation, Regulations, Policies, & Procedures

- DET Policy and Advisory Library
- Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 (Vic)
- Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) • Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic)
- Tobacco Act 1987 (Vic)

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

EVALUATION

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

Ratified by School Council September 2018