

SMOKING

POLICY

Rationale:

- Our school recognises the danger smoking and passive smoking causes to health, as well as the need for the school and its staff to provide positive role models to students. Consequently, for the protection of staff and students, smoking is not permitted within any area of the school property, nor at any school related activity or function by students, staff or visitors.

Aims:

- To ensure that all students are made aware of the dangers of smoking.
- To ensure that a fair and reasonable process for responding to incidents of smoking is developed, understood and consistently followed.

Implementation:

- Smoking and passive smoking are both dangerous to the health of employees and students.
- The Occupational Health and Safety Act requires employers to provide a safe work place, and as far as practical, without risks to health. The Tobacco (Amendment) Act 2005 prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and at under aged music/dance events, and in 2009 the Minister for Education banned smoking in all schools. Consequently, smoking is not permitted in any area of the school property at any time by anybody, nor at any school related activity or function, by students, staff or visitors. Failure by employees to comply with the Act is an offence.
- In addition, staff members are not permitted by the School Council Code of Conduct to smoke outside of the school property within the view of students.
- The health risks associated with smoking will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum for all students. Informed choices about smoking will feature amongst the harm minimisation strategies employed in the school's Individual Schools Drug Education Strategy (ISDES), and our "Saying No To Drugs" program will include sections relating to peer pressure and smoking. A whole school approach will be used regarding tobacco education.
- No Smoking signs will be erected at prominent places within the school, and at all music/dance events and functions.
- Our No Smoking policy will be communicated to the community via the school newsletter.
- The appropriate counselling and/or disciplinary action will be taken against staff who breach the school's no-smoking policy.
- A combination of counselling and disciplinary measures will accompany any incidents of student smoking. They include:
 - First Offence: Reminder of No Smoking policy and counselling.
 - Second Offence: Parent Contact, time out, Quit Line and counselling.
 - Third Offence: Suspension and counselling.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

March 2015