



Smoke-Free Policy

Preamble

MPSC 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. For the protection of staff and students, and in accordance with Victorian laws, 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 be consistent with the requirements of the DET and State Laws.
 - To ensure that all students and staff are made aware of the dangers of smoking and the effects on the body.
 - To ensure that a fair and reasonable process for responding to incidents of smoking is developed, understood and consistently followed.
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Implementation

- As per Department requirements, from 13 April 2015, smoking is banned within four metres of an entrance to all primary and secondary schools in Victoria, and within the school grounds, under an amendment to the *Tobacco Act 1987*.
- No Smoking signs are erected and maintained at various locations throughout the College including entrances. This policy will be communicated to the community via the newsletter and Pastoral Care Program.
- Possession and/or use of cigarettes or E-cigarettes by students on school grounds, or outside school grounds whilst wearing school uniform is completely prohibited.
- Student use of cigarettes or E-cigarettes whilst on school related activities such as camps or excursions is completely prohibited.
- Staff members and visiting members of the community are not permitted to smoke on school property and are encouraged to be positive role models and to not display or promote their personal habits by example. Staff who require support complying with the ban are encouraged to use the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and contact Converge International (1800-337-069).
- The health risks associated with smoking will form part of the Pastoral Care curriculum for all students. Informed choices about smoking will feature amongst the harm minimisation strategies employed in the school's Pastoral Care curriculum and Welfare system. If necessary arrange training workshops with Quit Victoria (9635-5529) on how to support staff and young people to quit.

SPECIFIC RESPONSES

Students found smoking, in possession of cigarettes, buying cigarettes from other students or supplying cigarettes to other students, or as a bystander in the company of smokers, anywhere in the school environment or whilst travelling to or from school, will be liable to a range of consequences dependent on the circumstance and whether or not previous offences have been recorded, at the discretion of the Principal.

This range includes;

First incident:

- Inform parents via phone call
 - Official warning
 - Incident report recorded
 - Educative conversation with the Year Level Coordinator
 - Community service
 - Exclusion from area where smoking occurred
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Second incident:

- Inform parents/guardian via phone call and formal letter
- Incident report recorded
- Referral to welfare team for counselling
- QUIT information supplied to student
- Exclusion from area where smoking occurred
- After school detention issued by Year Level Coordinator

Third incident:

- Incident report recorded
- Formal letter to parent/guardian
- Suspension from school
- Student Support Group convened with the student, parent/guardian, Year Level Coordinator and Student Welfare Co-ordinator

Continued

If the behaviour continues the student will be suspended for each further incident and support outlined above to continue. In extreme circumstances a student may be expelled.

Related Documents

- [Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy](#)
- [Student Engagement and Wellbeing Guidelines](#)
- [Student Behaviour Management Policy](#)

Related Links

DET Smoking Ban 2015

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/smokingban.aspx>

Smoke Free Schools Tobacco Prevention and Management Guidelines for Victorian Schools. Tobacco Prevention Education Curriculum Materials – A Classroom Approach for Teachers: Years 5 to 9

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/teachers/health/sfscurriculum.pdf>

Drug Education in Victorian Schools – Get Ready Years 7-9 curriculum resources

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/phised/Pages/drugedulearn.aspx>

Tobacco Act 1987

[http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/LTObject_Store/LTObjSt4.nsf/0/2e41f3df50a8d522ca2577610030f700/\\$FILE/87-81a071.pdf](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/LTObject_Store/LTObjSt4.nsf/0/2e41f3df50a8d522ca2577610030f700/$FILE/87-81a071.pdf)

Ratified Date

This Policy was ratified by School Council on 30 October 2018

Review Date

This policy will be reviewed as part of the College's three year review cycle
