



Anti-Smoking Policy

Relevant DET policy: [Smoking Ban](#)

RATIONALE:

This Anti-Smoking policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending Yarra Hills Secondary College are protected from exposure to the harmful effects of cigarette smoke and second-hand smoke. A Ministerial Ban Order was imposed and legislated in 2009 making it illegal to smoke on the grounds of all Victorian Government Schools. From April 2015, under an amendment to the Tobacco Act (1987) a further ban was imposed on smoking within four metres of any school entrance. This Policy applies to staff, students and all visitors to Yarra Hills Secondary College

OBJECTIVES:

The Anti-Smoking Policy aims to:

- Enforce current legal and other legislative requirements for adults and children related to tobacco and nicotine use in or near school grounds.
- Eliminate exposure to cigarette smoke to all members of the College community, while on school premises.
- Increase student and community awareness of tobacco and nicotine related health issues.
- Assist students and staff to develop strategies to minimise exposure to cigarette smoke.
- Provide a safe school environment for students, staff and the school community.
- Ensure that parents are informed of the school's Anti-Smoking Policy.
- Where students are concerned, provide an incremental set of consequences for breach of these requirements, as well as offer counselling and intervention support.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The school will ensure that suitable 'No Smoking' signs are installed at all entrances to the school grounds, and enforce the ban to prohibit smoking on school grounds and within 4 metres of school entrances.

Adults

- Enforce 'No-Smoking' bans for anyone present on school premises, or near school entrances, during and after school hours including students, teachers, contractors, parents/guardians or the wider community, such as sporting groups.
- Ensure compliance with this policy for all activities that take place on school premises including extra-curricular, cultural, sporting or recreational activities and school fetes.

Students

- Smoking, from traditional or electronic cigarettes, is not permitted at school, on the way to school or on the way home from school.
- Smoking is not permitted at any school activities or on any campus premises.
- Students are not to have on them at any time cigarettes, matches, lighters or any other smoking related material (including electronic smoking equipment).
- Students are not to associate with anyone who is involved in smoking on school premises.

CONSEQUENCES: (*note-Students found associating with smoking activity will incur the same consequences as smokers, whether they can be directly confirmed as smoking, or not)

- **First Offence:**
 - Confiscation of all smoking related items
 - Recording of incident on School Learning Management database
 - Parent(s) contacted
 - One day internal suspension/exclusion held at school
 - Completion of smoking intervention course/module (such as Quit Victoria) as directed by the Head of School, while on suspension

- **Second Offence**
 - Confiscation of all smoking related items
 - Recording of incident on School Learning Management database
 - Parent(s) contacted
 - One day external suspension
 - Completion of smoking intervention course/module (such as Quit Victoria) as directed by the Head of School, evidence presented following suspension

- **Subsequent Offences**
 - Confiscation of all smoking related items
 - Recording of incident on School Learning Management database
 - Parent(s) required to attend meeting with Head of School/Year Level Coordinator
 - External Suspension of twice the duration of the previous suspension
 - Completion of smoking intervention course/module (such as Quit Victoria) as directed by the Head of School.
 - Referred to external counselling/support agencies

Other relevant policies:

This policy was ratified by School Council on Sept 2020