

NO –SMOKING/VAPING



POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact administration office 03 9786 1555 or via email skye.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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 of Cigarettes and Electronic ‘E-Cigarettes’ is not permitted within any area of the school property, nor at any school related activity or function by students, staff or visitors.

By Law smoking is banned within the grounds of, and within 4 metres of an entrance to, all Victorian childcare centres, kindergartens, preschools, primary and secondary schools. This includes all Government, Independent and Catholic schools.

Smoking is also banned within four metres of any part of a pedestrian access point (entrance) to the premises.

The smoking ban applies to Skye Primary School at all times 24/7 no matter whether the building or school grounds are being used for educational purposes or any other purpose. The ban therefore applies when other activities are taking place on the school grounds, such as fetes or sporting events, this includes weekends and school vacations.

To protect children and young people from the dangers of second-hand smoke and vapour

This ban ensures that children and young people can enter and leave Skye Primary School without being exposed to harmful second-hand smoke and vapour.

Second-hand tobacco smoke and vapour from electronic cigarettes is particularly dangerous to children and young people because they have smaller airways and less developed immune systems compared to adults.

To reduce the role modelling of smoking behaviours around children and young people

Children and young people are more likely to view smoking as socially acceptable when they regularly see people smoking.

Banning smoking in areas used by children and young people will help to de-normalise smoking behaviour and discourage children and young people from taking up smoking.

PURPOSE

- To protect students, staff, parents and volunteers of Skye Primary School from harmful second hand smoke and vapours
- To ensure that Skye Primary School presents a positive image to visitors and members of the community
- To ensure that Skye Primary School complies with Victorian Law regarding no smoking bans

- 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 PLAN

The Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985, requires employers to provide a safe work place, and as far as practicable, without risks to health. The Tobacco (Amendment) Act 2005 prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and at under aged music/dance events.

Our School will:

Communicate our No Smoking/Vaping Policy to the school community via the newsletter and school website.

Action the appropriate counselling and/or disciplinary action for staff, visitors/contractors who breach the school’s no-smoking/vaping policy.

In dealing with student smoking on school premises our school will implement a combination of counselling and disciplinary measures.

No smoking signage is displayed in the administration office building and external school entrances.



Install additional signage “This Is Where We Learn” in building entrances.

The leadership team are responsible for ensuring that all staff, students, visitors and contractors are made aware of the policy and that they comply with its requirements.

People smoking/vaping in prohibited areas, will be asked by Skye Primary School staff politely to stop and advised they are breaching the school policy. Refusal to stop is unacceptable and will be reported to the leadership team. Failure to conform to the requirements of this policy by smoking/vaping on school premises or refusing to stop when requested constitutes a disciplinary offence. Contractors or visitors who refuse to stop smoking/vaping should be asked to leave the premises and if required reported to the police.

References and Acknowledgments

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/tobaccoreforms/>

To view the legislation visit

<http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/> and search *Tobacco Act 1987*

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

Support for those that smoke

<http://www.quit.org.au/>