



Smoking and Vaping Ban Policy



Help for non-English speakers.

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Maryborough Education Centre-5461 7900.

RATIONALE

Maryborough Education Centre recognises the danger of smoking, the use of vapes (commonly known as vaping) and passive smoking poses 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, (including vapes that do not contain nicotine) is not permitted on school grounds by staff, students or visitors (including parents/carers).

The ban applies to school grounds and within 4 metres of school entrances. The Tobacco Act 1987 bans smoking in a number of other public spaces including outdoor recreational areas, sporting venues, outdoor areas of public swimming pools, train platforms, tram, and bus shelters.

It also 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.

Smoking and vaping are also not permitted during school events and excursions held off school premises.

GOALS

- To ensure that all students are made aware of the dangers of smoking and vaping.
- To ensure that a fair and reasonable process for responding to incidents of smoking and vaping are developed, understood, and consistently followed.
- To reduce the dangers to the health of employees and students caused by smoking, vaping, and passive smoking.
- To meet all our obligations under the law outlined in the DE policy in relation to tobacco and smoking. [Smoking - Vaping – Ban/Policy](#)

GUIDELINES

- The Victorian Government has banned smoking, including vaping, in a number of public places including school grounds and within 4 metres of a school entrance. Failure to comply with this law is a fineable offence.
- In addition, staff members and members of the school community are requested not to smoke or vape at any school related activity or function, or on the perimeter of the school property (including car parks) within the view of students, parents or carers and other community members.
- The health risks associated with smoking will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum for all students. Informed choices about smoking and vaping will feature amongst the harm minimisation strategies employed in the school's drug education strategy, and our program will include sections relating to peer pressure and smoking.
- No Smoking and Smoke Free signs have been erected at prominent places within the school and within 4 metres of the school entrance.

- Our Smoking and Vaping Free policy will be communicated to the community via the website and newsletter.
- A combination of counselling and disciplinary measures will accompany any incidents of smoking that breach these guidelines.
- Parents/carers will be informed of all smoking infringements.

ACTIONS

Students observed smoking may have consequences as listed below:

- Reminder of 'No Smoking and Vaping Policy' (DE)
- Counselling with the School Nurse
- Suspension

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	25 th July, 2023
Consultation	Reviewed by Exec on 19 th July 2023
Approved by	Anita Ford School Council President
Next scheduled review date	This policy was last updated on 25 th July 2023 and is scheduled for review as part of the school's 3-year review cycle.

Signed:



Anita Ford
School Council President

Date 31.7.2023