
Smoking and Vaping Policy



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Boronia K-12 College on 03 9760 4900 or boronia.k12@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to support public health objectives and ensure there is no smoking or use of e-cigarettes (commonly known as 'vaping') on Boronia K-12 College premises (buildings and grounds), within 4 metres of school entrances or at school sanctioned events held off-premises.

OBJECTIVE

To achieve a smoke free school environment which sends a clear message that a healthy lifestyle does not include smoking. This policy aims to ensure a smoke free environment for students, families, staff, volunteers, and visitors and to deliver a clear and consistent message regarding the dangers of smoking.

SUMMARY

- In Victoria, a person must not smoke or use e-cigarettes on school premises or within 4 metres of any pedestrian access point to school premises.
- Inhaling vapour from an e-cigarette is known as vaping. When using an e-cigarette, the user inhales and exhales the vapour, which can look similar to smoking a cigarette.
- The prohibition on smoking includes the use of e-cigarettes (vaping) and applies whether or not the e-cigarette contains nicotine.
- Cigarettes and e-cigarettes cannot be sold to people under 18 years of age.
- Smoking and vaping are also not permitted during school events and excursions held off school premises.
- In Victoria it is illegal for any person aged 18 or over to obtain, possess or use nicotine e-cigarettes, or e-cigarette cartridges containing nicotine, or nicotine liquids for use in a vaporiser, without a prescription.
- It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes to, or buy e-cigarettes for, any person aged under 18 years whether or not the e-cigarettes contain nicotine.
- Whilst it is not unlawful for a person to possess or use e-cigarettes that do not contain nicotine, it is unlawful to use them on school premises or within 4 metres of a school entrance.

IMPLEMENTATION

Proactive Measures

- Boronia K-12 College will erect no-smoking signs and enforce the ban to prohibit smoking on school grounds and within four metres of school entrances
- Staff, families, and students will be provided with information about policy requirements.
- Health and Drug Education in Primary and Secondary programs.
- Access to GP in Schools Program & Adolescent Health Nurse.

Consequences for students found smoking / vaping or with cigarettes / vapes in their possession

Students who are in breach of this policy will be required to hand to the staff member any cigarettes / lighters / vapes in their possession.

Student paraphernalia will be confiscated and destroyed, unless the parent makes a request to collect the item. This is inclusive of cigarettes, lighters, tobacco pouches, matches, tobacco rolling paper, e-cigarettes, e-cigarette fluid, pipes and any other device or materials used for smoking.

Staff members report student/s to the appropriate Sub School Team for student and parent follow up.

At first instance:

The incident must be reported to the relevant Sub School Team. The incident is recorded on Compass as a Major Behaviour Incident. Follow up includes:

- Parent contact or carer after a vaping incident to:
 - explain the vaping incident, emphasise the ban on possession, supply or use of a vaping device at school
 - provide parent/carers with information about vaping
- Quit information supplied to the student; - <http://www.quit.org.au/> (Effects of smoking on my body) and <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/smoking-vaping-ban/resources>

At second and subsequent instances:

The incident must be reported to the relevant Sub School Team. The incident is recorded on Compass as a Major Behaviour Incident. Follow up includes:

- Further parent consultation.
- Exclusion from area where the behaviour has occurred.
- Referral to counselling session with Drug & alcohol Counsellor organised by Wellbeing Team

RESOURCES

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/smoking-vaping-ban/resources>

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

<https://www.quit.org.au/tools/effects-smoking-your-body/>

REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Plan last reviewed	May 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2026