

# Smoke Free School Policy

## Rationale:

From 13th April 2015, the amended Tobacco Act 1997 (Vic) bans smoking within the grounds of, and at and within four metres of an entrance (pedestrian access points) to, all Victorian primary and secondary school premises. The ban therefore applies when other activities are taking place on school grounds, such as fetes or sporting events and school holiday programs as well as during school hours.

In addition, Seville Primary School recognises that role modelling has a significant impact on students, and smoke free areas make smoking less visible and less socially acceptable. We believe that smoking bans de-normalise smoking and discourages students from taking it up. We also recognise that exposure to second hand smoke is harmful to health and that everyone within our school community has the right to be protected.

## Aims:

- To achieve a smoke free school environment in line with our legal and social obligations
- To make all attendees of the school aware of the smoke free status of Seville Primary School
- To promote and encourage a healthy lifestyle for all of the Seville Primary School community.

## Implementation:

- This policy applies to all staff members, students, visitors, contractors and volunteers of Seville Primary School at all times
- As per the Tobacco Act 1987 (Vic) the smoke free status of the school applies at all times, no matter whether the building or school grounds are being used for education purposes or other purposes. The School Council must ensure that any third party using our facilities are made aware of and adhere to the smoke free policy
- The smoke free status of Seville Primary School will be clearly signed at the entrance to, and within school grounds. This smoke free policy will be promoted within the school and in external publications such as the newsletter and website
- This policy applies to both electronic cigarettes and traditional cigarettes
- This policy also extends to externally held school events such as but not limited to excursions, camps and sporting events
- We shall support and encourage staff who wish to cut down or stop smoking. Assistance can be provided by promoting the Quitline (13 7848) and providing printed health information
- As per the School Council Code of Conduct, staff members are not permitted to smoke outside of the school property within view of the students
- This smoke free policy is an integral part of our existing workplace health and safety policies. Staff adherence to this policy is a condition of employment at Seville Primary School. Any breach of this policy will lead to normal disciplinary procedures being applied. Staff that may have a grievance relating to this policy should speak to the Health & Safety Officer or appropriate representative
- Seville Primary School views smoking primarily as a health issue and believe that smoking prevention education is best delivered within the context of the school curriculum where the whole-of-school approach to health and wellbeing is evident. We shall educate students and parents on addiction and remind the students of the health risks of smoking
- In the event that a student does not follow the smoke free policy, the Principal or nominated person(s) will follow established welfare and management procedures and remind the student of the health risk of smoking. Parents will immediately be notified if the smoke free policy is not adhered to by students
- Any visitor that persists on smoking shall be reminded of the smoke free policy in the first instance and asked to leave if non adherence is continued.

## **Additional and Relevant Documents:**

- SPS Workplace Health and Safety Policy
- SPS Code of Conduct
- SPS Duty Of Care Policy
- SPS Yard Supervision Policy
- SPS Sunsmart Policy

## **Policy evaluation and review**

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

**This policy was ratified by School Council in 2019.**

**This policy will be reviewed by School Council in 2022.**