

**DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL**

**SMOKING POLICY**

**Preamble**

Dandenong High 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 is not permitted within any area of the school property, nor at any school related activity or function by students, staff or visitors.

**Purpose**

On 1 July 2009, the Minister for Education exercised the power under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* to prohibit smoking in all government schools.

* 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**

* Smoking and passive smoking is dangerous to the health of employees and students
* The Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985 requires employers to provide a safe work place and as far as practical, without risks to health. The Tobacco [Amendment] Act 2005 prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and at any under-aged event. Failure by DEECD employees to comply with the Act is an offence
* In addition, staff members are not permitted to smoke outside of the school property within the view of students
* The health risks associated with smoking will form part of the Health HHealth and Physical Education curriculum for all students. Informed choices about smoking will feature amongst the harm minimisation strategies employed in the school’s Individual Schools Drug Education Strategy [ISDES] and our “Saying No To Drugs” program will include sections relating peer pressure and smoking
* No Smokingsigns will be erected at prominent places within the school
* Our No Smoking Policy will be communicated to the community via the school newsletter
* Refer DEECD Memos S053 – 2006 New Tobacco Reforms and S299 – 2009 Ban on Smoking on Government School Premises
* A combination of counselling and disciplinary measures will accompany any incidents of smoking. They include:
  + First Offence: No smoking Policy, assignment and after school detentions and counselling
  + Second Offence: Parent contact, internal suspension and counselling
  + Third Offence: External suspension, parent contact and counselling

**Evaluation: This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year review cycle.**

**School Council Endorsement Date:** **18th November 2014**