

Croydon Community School & OPTIONS

Smoke Free Policy



PURPOSE

To ensure all members of the community understand the school's strong commitment to providing a healthy and safe workplace.

SCOPE

This policy is aimed at supporting our workers, students and visitors to adopt and promote healthy behaviours in the workplace, and to reduce harms and health inequalities associated with smoking and exposure to tobacco smoke. This policy also applies to the use of electronic cigarettes (e.g. vapes).

The Department of Education & Training does not permit any person to smoke on departmental property therefore Croydon Community School & Options have a zero-tolerance policy.

Croydon Community School endeavours to ensure that our young people are not exposed to, or involved in, smoking on school property, or at any school sanctioned event / activity such as camps, excursions, school performances, for example.

POLICY

Students will be informed of our smoke-free policy, including the consequences for smoking cigarettes and e-cigarettes (vapes) during the school day.

No person is permitted to smoke at Croydon Community School & OPTIONS or within 4 metres of any entrance to the school.

Smoking is not permitted at any school event such as excursions, camps and school productions / performances. Furthermore, students may not smoke while using the facilities of Main St Croydon whilst purchasing lunch.

Cigarettes are not permitted at school. Teachers will confiscate cigarettes, and these will only be returned to parents/carers if requested in person within one week of their confiscation.

Lighters and matches are not permitted at school. Teachers will confiscate these items, and these will only be returned to parents/carers if requested in person within one week of their confiscation.

While all efforts will be made to help individuals to meet the requirements of this policy, a non compliance strategy will apply to students who disregard the school's Smoke Free policy.

NON-COMPLIANCE STRATEGY

The following non-compliance strategy will be applied if anyone disregards the schools Smoke Free policy.

1. Students will be informed by staff that they have been clearly seen smoking at school or on a school activity.
 - Students will be provided with an opportunity to be heard and will be given a verbal warning.
 - Students who are seen in the company of students who are smoking will be warned re the health impact of passive smoking.
2. If students are seen to be smoking at school or on a school activity for a second time:
 - a formal conversation will be held with advisors / assistant principal regarding the smoke-free policy and ability to follow instructions
 - a wellbeing conversation will also be held with a member of the wellbeing team and advisor to determine the students smoking history and reasons for smoking
 - students will be asked to complete a health promotion activity relating to smoking at a time negotiated between the student and advisor

- Note: if students believe that they need to have a smoke at school to settle anxiety etc. will need a Behaviour Support Plan devised.
3. If it is determined that a young person has breached the policy again, a staged response will occur and individualised consequences will be explored. These may include:
- A Student Support Group meeting, a behaviour support plan, community service, further health promotion, detentions, internal & external suspensions
 - Consideration will be given to the student's school and extra-curricular program to determine the timing of any suspension if that was considered to be the appropriate consequence.

Once again, the school takes its role in reducing the availability and opportunity for students to commence and/or continue to smoke seriously. The health benefits of not smoking have been well documented. Members of the school's Wellbeing Team are available to assist the school community with many issues, including smoking addiction.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Reference:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/smokingban.aspx

Please refer also to the school's:

- Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Hire of Facilities Policy

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy, last ratified in May 2017 and developed in this format in September 2019, will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest DET update mid-December 2017).