

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

Policy & Procedure



Relevant to:	All parents, School Administration Staff
Developed by:	Management Team
Date of Introduction:	October 2018
Date of Most Recent Review:	Jun26
Date for Review:	Jun29
Approved:	NTSA Board Jun26
Related Documents:	WHS

PURPOSE

Tamar Valley Steiner School (TVSS) recognises that exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke or vapour/aerosol is irritating and harmful to health and that non-smokers, and particularly children, should be protected. Even in outdoor areas where people tend to gather, secondhand smoke/vapour may be a potential health risk to non-smokers. There is also evidence to suggest that smokefree areas support smokers who are trying to quit as well as reduce their overall cigarette consumption.

Legislation and the legal duty of care also provide clear reasons to have a smokefree workplace. The School has a duty, so far as is reasonably practicable, to provide and maintain a healthy and safe environment for workers, students, volunteers, contractors and visitors.

TVSS also recognises that outdoor smokefree areas help to reduce cigarette butt litter and provide a substantial cost saving through reduced clean-up costs and reduced fire risk. Discarded cigarette butts pose a danger to children's health if they swallow them, potentially causing vomiting and other symptoms of nicotine poisoning.

Accordingly, the following policy has been developed by Tamar Valley Steiner School.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all employees, students, parents/carers, volunteers, contractors, visitors, consultants and any other person present on School premises or participating in School activities. while on school premises or participating in activities related to school. TVSS requires the entire area of the school to be smokefree as well as all school-related activities.

This policy applies during all School activities, excursions, camps, sporting events, performances, meetings and other School-sponsored activities, whether conducted on or off School grounds.

This policy applies to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, vaping devices, e-cigarettes, heated tobacco products and any similar smoking or nicotine delivery devices.

Position on electronic cigarettes

The School prohibits the use of all smoking products, including tobacco products, electronic cigarettes (vapes), vaping devices, and any device that produces smoke, vapour or aerosol, within all School premises, vehicles and grounds.

PROCEDURE

Compliance (for staff)

This smokefree policy is an integral part of our existing workplace health and safety policies. Complying with this policy is a condition of employment at TVSS. Employees are reminded that they are obliged, under the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (TAS), to protect the health of their fellow workers. The responsibility for enforcing the policy rests with all managers, supervisors and staff. Any breach of this policy will lead to the normal disciplinary procedures being applied. Any worker who has a grievance relating to this policy should speak to the Health and Safety Officer or appropriate Representative. Employees cannot be disciplined for smoking away from the workplace, in their own time.

The School recognises that some employees may wish to cease smoking or vaping. Information regarding available support services may be provided upon request.

Compliance (for visitors and others)

The following five step non-compliance strategy will be followed if anyone breaches TVSS's smokefree policy:

- Assume the person is unaware of the policy.
- Politely remind them of the School's smoke-free requirements.
- Request that smoking or vaping cease immediately.
- If non-compliance continues, direct the person to leave the premises or area where activity is being held.
- Where necessary, the Principal or delegate may take further action, including restricting future access to School property or involving appropriate authorities.

Breaches of this policy by employees may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the School's disciplinary procedures and employment obligations.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. This will ensure that the policy remains current and practical.

END