

Tobacco Control & Smoking Policy

General Statement:

The Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985 requires employers to provide a safe work place, as far as practical, without risks to health. DEECD has determined that smoking is not permitted in any area of the school property, nor at any school related activity or function, by students, staff or visitors.

Rationale:

- Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill-health in our society.
- Passive smoking - breathing other people's tobacco smoke - is also potentially fatal. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, as well as many other illnesses, in non-smokers.
- Smoking is a health and safety issue for all adults who use the school: staff and parents.
- Everyone has the right to breathe clean air, and non-smokers are in the majority.
- Schools have a major role to play in working towards non-smoking being seen as the norm in society.
- Children need to receive consistent messages of non smoking behaviours

Jackson School recognises the danger smoking and passive smoking causes to health. 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.

Implementation:

- Each year the school, where appropriate will provide a range of educational activities about the issue of smoking
- A combination of counselling and disciplinary measures will be taken for any incidents of smoking.

Failure to comply with the Act is an offence.

- Jackson's 'No-Smoking' requirements will be included in the newsletter.
- Staff members are permitted to smoke outside school property at a distance of no less than 100 meters from the school's boundary.
- Students will be considered to have breached the school's requirements if they:
 - have brought smoking materials to the school or on school activities
 - have smoking materials in their possession
 - have been seen smoking
 - have been present in the group where other students were seen smoking.

The following action(s) will be taken when a breach occurs:

First offence:

- the teacher reports the offence in writing to the Assistant Principal (Wellbeing)
- the student is counselled by the home-group teacher and/or leading teacher
- the student reads and completes, at home a research project on smoking and the related harm
- the parents are notified
- the Assistant Principal maintains a record (kept current for each calendar year)

Second offence:

- as above
- external suspension for 1 day

Third (& subsequent) offences:

- as above but the external suspension is for 2 days
- a parent/student interview is arranged to develop a joint strategy to resolve the problem

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Ratified by School Council: _____

Review Date: _____

School Council President

Jackson School Principal