



BADEN POWELL COLLEGE



# ANTI SMOKING & VAPING

Policy 2022

## **Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), commonly known as ‘vapes’ or the act of ‘vaping’:**

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) are electronic devices which heat and vaporise liquids that may or may not contain nicotine or flavouring agents. The vapour is inhaled, simulating the act of smoking. Use of e-cigarettes is commonly referred to as ‘vaping’. In Victoria it is illegal for any person aged 18 or over to obtain, possess or use nicotine e-cigarettes, or e-cigarette cartridges containing nicotine, or nicotine liquids for use in a vaporiser, without a prescription. It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes to, or buy e-cigarettes for, any person aged under 18 years whether or not that the e-cigarettes contain nicotine. Whilst it is not unlawful for a person to possess or use e-cigarettes that do not contain nicotine, it is unlawful to use them on school premises or within 4 metres of a school entrance.

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to support public health objectives and ensure there is no smoking or use of e-cigarettes (commonly known as 'vaping') on the school premises (in both the buildings or on the grounds), within 4 metres of school entrances or at school events held off-premises.

## **SUMMARY:**

- In Victoria, a person must not smoke or use e-cigarettes on school premises or within 4 metres of any pedestrian access point to school premises.
- Inhaling vapour from an e-cigarette is known as ‘vaping’. When using an e-cigarette, the user inhales and exhales the vapour, which can look similar to smoking a cigarette. The prohibition on smoking includes the use of e-cigarettes (vaping) and applies whether or not the e-cigarette contains nicotine.
- Cigarettes and e-cigarettes cannot be sold to people under 18 years of age.
- It is a legislative requirement that schools display suitable ‘No Smoking’ signs at all pedestrian access points (entrances) to the school grounds. The legislation defines smoking to include the use of an e-cigarette.
- In Victoria, a person must not smoke in a motor vehicle if a person under 18 years is also present in the motor vehicle.
- Smoking and vaping are also not permitted during school events and excursions held off school premises.

## **DETAILS:**

A person must not smoke cigarettes including e-cigarettes (regardless of whether they contain nicotine) within school premises and within 4 metres of any pedestrian access to school premises. Smoking in these places is an offence and individuals can be fined.

Schools must display ‘No Smoking’ signs and enforce the ban to prohibit smoking and vaping on school premises (including inside buildings or within school grounds) and within 4 metres of school entrances.

The smoking and vaping ban applies to:

- anyone present on school premises during and outside of school hours including students, teachers, contractors, parents or carers or the wider community, such as sporting groups
- all activities that take place on school premises including pre-schools, kindergartens, outside school hours care, cultural, sporting or recreational activities and school fetes.
- Smoking and vaping are also not permitted during school events and excursions held off school premises.

Schools must:

- display 'No Smoking' signs at each pedestrian access point to the school premises.

Principals or their delegate should:

- ensure that the whole school community is aware that smoking and vaping are not permitted on school premises and within 4 metres of school entrances. This may be achieved through the signage required at each entrance. If further measures are required (due to non-compliance), notices in the school newsletter, on the school website and direct communication with specific staff, students, parents/carers or visitors who are non-compliant may be required.
- remind the school community that smoking and vaping are not permitted at school events held on and off school premises.
- encourage Department employees who require support complying with the ban to either:
  - call the Quitline on 13 7848. Quitline is a friendly, confidential telephone service. A Quitline counsellor is trained to listen carefully and provide practical advice tailored for each person.
  - use the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or contact LifeWorks (1300 361 008)
- Secondary classes in Personal Growth and Health and Physical Education to explicitly teach students about the dangers and impact of cigarettes and e-cigarettes.

#### **EVALUATION:**

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

**November 2022**