

**RATIONALE:**

Mill Park Primary 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 students, staff, parents and visitors, smoking is not permitted within any area of the school property, nor at any school related activity or function by students, staff, parents or visitors.

PURPOSE:

- To ensure that students are made aware of the dangers of smoking through the Health and Safety Education Program.
- To ensure the school environment does not expose students to smoking, including passive 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 are 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. Consequently, smoking is not permitted in any area of the school property, nor at any school related activity or function, by students, staff, parents or visitors. Failure by employees to comply with the Act is an offence.
- Staff members are not permitted to smoke outside of the school property within the view of students.
- Parents are not permitted to smoke in the school grounds and will be encouraged to not smoke outside of the school property within view of the students.
- Learning about the health risks associated with smoking will form part of the Health and Safety education programs for students. Informed choices about smoking will feature amongst the harm minimisation strategies employed in the school's Health and Safety program which is aligned to the Strategic Plan and the Victorian Curriculum.
- The Health and Safety program will include sections relating to peer pressure and smoking, particularly in the Middle Years.
- 'No Smoking' signs will be erected at prominent places within the school.
- Our Smoke Free School policy will be communicated to the community via the school newsletter.
- Any person ignoring the non-smoking policy will be reminded by the Principal or Assistant Principal of the requirement to either put out the cigarette or to leave the school ground.
- The Smoke Free Policy will support the ongoing development of Mill Park Primary School being a Healthy Together Accredited School.

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's 3 year review cycle.