

# ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, MILDURA



<b>Policy Number:</b>	COLLEGE 27
<b>Policy Name:</b>	Smoking Policy
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Deputy Principal Students
<b>Date Approved by Leadership:</b>	May 2022
<b>Date of Next Review:</b>	May 2025
<b>Related Policies:</b>	OH & S Policy First Aid Policy Pastoral Care Policy Child Safe Policy Wellbeing Procedures Policy Student Behaviour Support Plan

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## PREAMBLE

God is at the centre of our College...Mercy is the heartbeat of the Gospel. We encourage every student to grow in the fullness of life and realise their potential through the bread we break at school, the bread of relationships and the bread of conversation. Let us engage the heart and bring faith to life and life to faith (Thomas Groome).

## LEGISLATION

This policy takes into account relevant legislative requirements within the state of Victoria, including the specific requirements of the Victorian Child Safe Standards as set out in *Ministerial Order No. 870*. This policy applies to St Joseph's College staff, including employees, volunteers, contractors and clergy.

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## 1. PURPOSE

1.1 Our college recognises the danger that smoking (cigarettes and e-cigarettes - commonly known as 'vaping') and passive smoking poses to health, as well as the need for the college and its staff to provide positive role models to students. Consequently, for the protection of staff and students, smoking is not permitted within any area of the college property, nor within four (4) metres of any exit to the college property, nor at any college-related activity or function by students, staff or visitors.

## 2. AIMS

- 2.1 To ensure that all students are made aware of the dangers of smoking.
- 2.2 To ensure that a fair and reasonable process for responding to incidents of smoking is developed, understood and consistently followed.
- 2.3 To provide a safe working environment for all staff, students and visitors.
- 2.4 To ensure that the college is compliant with all legislative requirements in relation to smoking in the workplace.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Smoking is banned on school premises and within four metres of any part of a pedestrian access point to school premises. A similar ban applying to the entrances and grounds of Victorian childcare centres and kindergartens is also in place.

- 3.2 It is a legislative requirement that schools display suitable 'No smoking' signs at all entrances to the college grounds. Smoking cannot occur less than 4 metres from the college entrance.
- 3.3 Smoking and passive smoking are dangerous to the health of employees and students. All college vehicles are smoke-free.
- 3.4 Smoking by students will be substantiated through clear evidence from a staff member or verified evidence from other students.
- 3.5 Students who engage in smoking or who are present when smoking occurs without an adequate reason will be interviewed by a House Leader, and their parents/guardians will be notified of this smoking-related incident. These students will be involved in counselling and processes consistent with the Student Behaviour Support Plan.
- 3.6 Students are reminded that all college policies, including smoking, apply at all times at the college and outside of the college whilst students are wearing college uniform.
- 3.7 Education about the health risks associated with smoking will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum for all students. Informed choices about smoking will feature among the harm minimisation strategies employed in the college's Health Education Strategy.
- 3.8 A combination of counselling and student management measures will accompany any incidents of student smoking.
- 3.9 The prohibition on smoking includes the use of e-cigarettes (vaping) and applies whether or not the An e-cigarette contains nicotine.