

## Smoking, Vaping and Other Drugs Policy Purpose

Leadership and staff acknowledge the importance in reducing harm from smoking, vaping, alcohol and other drugs. Providing a smoke, vape and drug free environment and promoting low-risk alcohol consumption contributes to the overall health and wellbeing of the students, staff and families related to the school.

This policy confirms our commitment to:

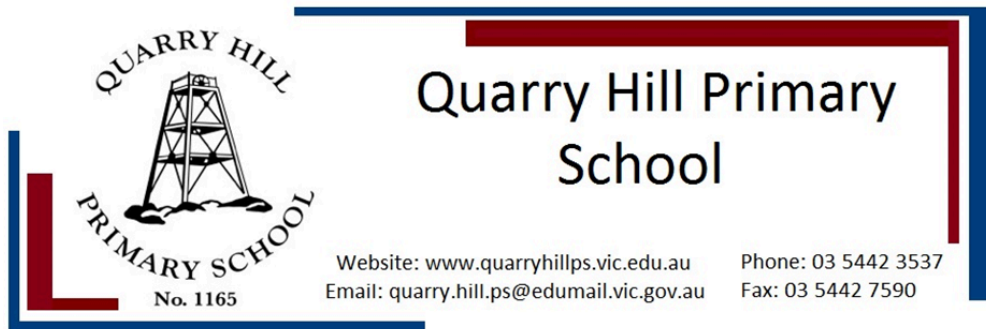
- ensuring a smoke, vape and drug free environment for students, families, staff, volunteers, and visitors.
- promoting low-risk alcohol consumption to our service community
- delivering smoking, vaping, alcohol, and other drugs education in one or more learning key areas of the curriculum as a part of a whole school approach to health and wellbeing (e.g. developing knowledge, resilience and help-seeking skills of students)
- providing information to staff and families about the health benefits of not smoking, vaping or taking drugs, and low-risk alcohol consumption
- providing a safe, inclusive and empowering school environment
- implementing strategies to prevent and minimise harm
- dealing with drug use (licit and illicit) as a health and safety issue
- establishing supportive procedures to respond to drug-related incidents.

As a health-promoting school, we will promote positive behaviours in relation to smoking, vaping, alcohol and other drugs through learning, policies, creating a safe and healthy physical and social environment, and developing community links and partnerships.

## Policy statement

### Background

Smoking, vaping, alcohol and other drugs prevention and education is most effective when it is delivered in a context of a whole school approach to health and wellbeing. Children and young people begin experimenting with tobacco or e-cigarette products, and licit and illicit



drugs at school age and role modelling by adults is very influential during this period. Teachers and parents are in a particularly influential position as their behaviour can have an impact on how children and young people behave. For example, a smoke, vape and drug free school environment sends a clear message that a healthy lifestyle does not include smoking, vaping, and drug taking. Likewise, education can play a counterbalancing role in this. There are a range of risk and protective factors related to the environment, knowledge, attributes and skills of students that influence the likelihood of them experimenting with tobacco or e-cigarette products, alcohol and other drugs. Research suggests that young people who have a number of protective factors in their lives are less likely to engage in long-term risky behaviour, including tobacco, e-cigarette, alcohol and drug experimentation. Developing protective factors such as resilience and social and emotional competencies will enhance the potential for children and young people to resist risky behaviours.

### Whole school engagement

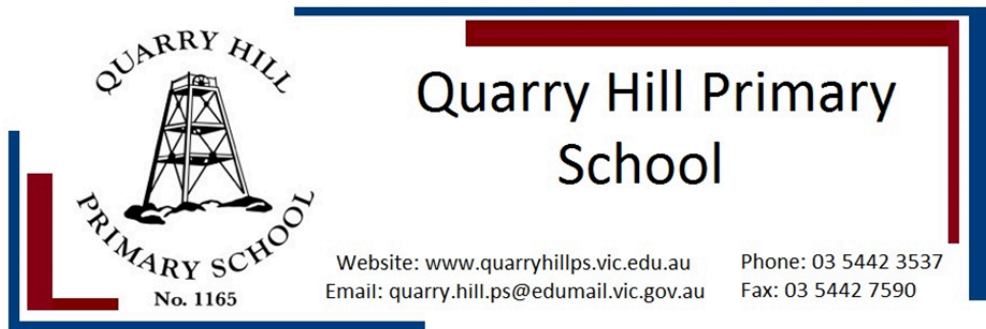
It is recognised that every member of Quarry Hill Primary School has an impact on students' health and can contribute to creating a healthy environment that is smoke-, vape- and drug-free and promotes low-risk alcohol consumption. All members of our school community including staff, students, families and volunteers will be supported to meet this policy.

### Definitions

**Smoking, vaping, alcohol, and other drugs:** For the purposes of this policy and for the Healthy Schools Achievement Program, the 'Smoking, Vaping, Alcohol and Other Drugs' health priority area focuses on creating smoke-, vape- and drug-free environments and low-risk alcohol consumption. Smoke- and vape-free refers to both traditional and electronic cigarettes (i.e. e-cigarettes).

**Tobacco product:** Any device or product that contains organic matter that is heated or burned to create aerosol or smoke that is inhaled by the user.

**E-cigarette product:** Any electronic device that is intended to be used to create an aerosol for inhalation and any liquid, or product containing liquid, intended to be used in or with an electronic device to create an aerosol for inhalation.



**Drug:** Any substance taken to change the way the body and/or mind functions.

**Alcohol:** A depressant drug that slows down activity in the central nervous system.

## Procedures and responsibilities

### Leadership and commitment

- Staff, families, and students are involved in guiding the development and implementation of the whole school Smoking, Vaping, Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy and practices.
- Staff, families, and students are provided with information about policy requirements, with opportunities to provide feedback and input.

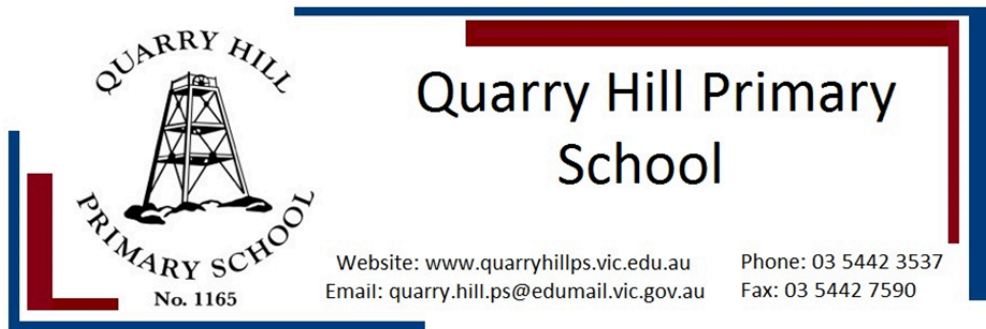
### Healthy physical environment

- There is smoke and vape free signage that can be easily seen and understood by the whole community.
- All events, on and off site, are smoke, vape and drug free.
- If external organisations use the premises, a formal agreement ensures the school premises are smoke, vape and drug free and low-risk alcohol consumption is promoted.

### Healthy culture

- Diversity and cultural practices are considered when implementing this policy and preventative smoking, vaping alcohol, and other drug initiatives.
- Staff, families, and visitors are required to adhere to legislation and school policies related to smoke- and vape free areas and are asked not to smoke or vape in sight of students.
- Staff who smoke are encouraged to take appropriate hygiene measures, such as thoroughly washing their hands, after smoking or vaping so that students are not exposed to second-hand smoke or e-cigarette aerosol.
- Our school encourages its events, celebrations, awards, gifts and fundraising to be free of alcoholic products.

### Student teaching and learning



- Smoking, vaping, alcohol, and drug education, including information about related health risks, is appropriately incorporated into the curriculum.
- Students who want to quit smoking or vaping, drinking, or using drugs are supported to seek information, advice and treatment referrals.
- Staff are supported to access professional development and resources about smoking, vaping, alcohol and other drug education and best-practice responses to student misuse.

#### **Supported Staff**

- Where appropriate, staff who want to quit smoking or vaping, drinking, or using other drugs are supported and referred to relevant agencies.
- Smoking, vaping, alcohol, and other drug policy requirements are included in staff induction/orientation.
- Resources about the health risks related to smoking and vaping, high-risk drinking and taking drugs are available to staff.

#### **Families and community partnerships**

- Information about health risks related to smoking and vaping, high-risk drinking and using other drugs is available for families and community members, including information about accessing support services.
- Partnerships are established with relevant organisations and health professionals to support smoke-, vape and drug free and alcohol harm reduction initiatives where appropriate.
- There are no partnerships with organisations that manufacture or wholesale alcoholic, tobacco or e-cigarette products.

#### **Relevant legislation and policy documents**

- [Tobacco Act 1987](#)
- [Liquor Control Reform Act 1998](#)
- [Department of Education: Smoking and Vaping Ban](#)
- [Department of Education: Alcohol and Other Drugs - Students](#)
- [Education and Training Reform Act 2006](#)

#### **Related school policies**



# Quarry Hill Primary School

Website: [www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au](http://www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au)  
Email: [quarry.hill.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:quarry.hill.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

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- Child Safety Policy
- Code of Conduct Policy – Staff & Volunteers Policy
- Staff Health and Wellbeing
- Student Engagement & Wellbeing Policy
- Visitors Policy

All of the above policies are available on our website:

<https://www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au/page/180/School-Policies>

The 'Smoking and vaping: advice for parents' document is available to download in different languages [here](#).

## Resources:

- Quit Campaign
- RRRR Teaching Resources
- Bendigo Community Health Resources
- Drug Free Lifestyle Program

## Monitoring and review

This Smoking, Vaping, Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy will be monitored and reviewed by the staff, school council, student representatives and the health and wellbeing team at least once every three years.

Policy last reviewed	July, 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2026