

Guiding principles for school policy development

1

Student wellbeing first

The health, safety, and wellbeing of students are at the centre of all decisions and responses.

2

Whole-school responsibility

Creating a vape-free environment is a shared responsibility of students, staff, families, and the wider school community.

3

Prevention through education

Students, staff and families are provided with accurate, age-appropriate information about the risks associated with vaping and nicotine dependence.

4

Consistent responses and clear expectations

All staff apply procedures and responses to vaping incidents consistently, fairly, and respectfully.

5

Supportive school approaches

Responses focus on support, wellbeing, learning and behaviour change, alongside appropriate consequences.

6

Referrals to therapeutic services

Students involved in vaping are referred for individualised therapeutic support, recognising nicotine addiction, peer influence and underlying wellbeing factors may be contributing to behaviour.

Example policy statement

Our school adopts a whole-school approach to vaping prevention and response, underpinned by the principles of student wellbeing, education, early intervention, consistent practice, family partnership and restorative support. We are committed to maintaining a safe, healthy and inclusive learning environment that supports students to make informed choices and develop positive health behaviours.