



SMOKE/VAPE FREE, ALCOHOL FREE SCHOOL

General Statement

Jacana School for Autism (JSA) has a responsibility to ensure the provision and maintenance of a safe and secure learning environment for all members of the community. The Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985, requires employers to provide a safe workplace, and as far as practical, without risks to health.

Rationale

JSA is a smoke/vape free and alcohol free school. The school recognises the danger smoking/Vaping and passive smoking causes to health. The school recognises the danger that the consumption of alcohol may cause to health and safety. The school acknowledges the need for staff to provide positive role models to students. The school recognises it is culturally inclusive to prohibit the consumption of alcohol at school events. In addition the Department of Education and Training (DET) has prohibited smoking on school grounds and within four metres of school entrances.

Implementation

- Smoking and the consumption of alcohol are not permitted in any area of the school property, nor at any off campus school related activity or function attended by students.
- The *Smoke/vaping Free, Alcohol Free* policy will be communicated to the community through the school newsletter and to contractors in the *Contractor Handbook*.
- The community will be reminded that JSA is a smoke/vape and alcohol free environment on notices regarding special events.
- The school will provide alcohol free beverages at school events and function for the consumption of students, staff and visitors.
- Fundraising activities and/or school events will not include the sale of alcohol or the awarding of alcohol as prizes without the permission of school council.
- 'No Smoking' signs are erected at all entrances/gates to the school.
- A combination of counselling and disciplinary measures will accompany any incidents of staff or students smoking or drinking at school.
- Organisers of staff and or School Council functions at the school may seek permission of the School Council to permit alcohol to be consumed on the premises.

Electronic cigarettes

E-cigarettes are electronic devices which heat and vaporise liquids that may or may not contain nicotine and/or flavouring agents. The vapour is inhaled, simulating the act of smoking.

It is illegal to obtain, possess or use e-cigarettes, or their cartridges, which contain nicotine in Victoria. On this basis students, teachers and employees of the Department are banned from possessing or using e-cigarettes, or their cartridges, containing nicotine on school grounds.

References:

School Policy and Advisory Guide:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/Pages/spag.aspx>

Smoking Ban:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/smokingban.aspx>

Alcohol: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/alcohol.aspx>

Evaluation: This policy will be evaluated as part of the school's policy review cycle.

Ratified at School Council	4 th August 2022
Review Date	Term 3, 2025