

New smoking bans to apply on school grounds and at school entrances

Additional Information

- A public awareness and information campaign will promote community awareness of the bans. Print and radio advertising, as well as social media, will be used prior to the introduction of the bans and for a period following their commencement.
- Officers from councils will be responsible for enforcing the bans, and will take an education approach, making sure smokers understand the new laws. However, an infringement penalty of \$147 could apply to adults caught wilfully breaking the law.
- Council officers have been given power to enter school premises to monitor and enforce the ban. However, this is subject to permission from the school principal and, if permission is provided, the inspector must be accompanied by the school principal or a person acting on their behalf. It is anticipated that the focus for council officers will be on those smoking within four metres of school entrances, and that the power to enter school premises will be used sparingly.
- Factsheets and further information about the bans will be available from the Tobacco Reforms website.
- You are encouraged to join over 650 other schools currently participating in the Healthy Together Achievement Program to create a healthy learning and smoke-free environment. The Achievement Program supports a whole-school approach to promoting health and improving student wellbeing and engagement and this may also support the introduction of the bans.
- Further information about the Achievement Program is available at: www.achievementprogram.healthytogether.health.vic.gov.au