



## ANTI-SMOKING/VAPING POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Foster Secondary College on 03 5682 2066.

Schools owe a duty of care to their students. Government regulations stipulate that smoking (and vaping) on school grounds is prohibited at all times. This stipulation extends to students outside of the school premises during the normal course of the school day.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, through its Guidelines for a Student Code of Conduct, clearly indicates that schools have the right to discipline students for possessing or using any banned substance. Tobacco and vaping falls into this category.

The College does not distinguish between students found smoking/vaping or students in possession of cigarettes/vaping paraphernalia. Both categories of offenders will be treated equally, as will those choosing to be bystanders to this behaviour.

The College has adopted a five stage process to deal with smoking related offences.

### STAGE ONE:

First offence - A letter home to explain the incident and one day external suspension. Also a referral to Student Welfare Coordinator to discuss options such as QUIT.

### STAGE TWO:

Further offences - Letter of explanation to parents and a two day suspension.

### STAGE THREE:

Further Offences - An appropriate penalty of a more severe nature will be determined by the administration for persistent offenders.