



## Burnie High School Drug Policy - Smoking



Our School Drug Policy states that “Students are prohibited from smoking on all school related activities” and as with all government agencies, Burnie High School is a Smoke Free Zone. This is in accordance with Section 32 of the Tasmanian Industrial Safety, Health & Welfare Act 1977.

Smoking is of grave concern to the school community. The general health risks associated with smoking are now well known. The following extract from the Western Australian Tobacco Bill (1989) summarises these risks:

- Cigarette smoking is the largest single preventable cause of death and disease in the community today. Diseases caused by smoking include coronary heart disease, lung cancer, chronic bronchitis and emphysema.
- The younger people are when they begin to smoke, the more likely it is that they will suffer from diseases caused by smoking later in life.
- Senior students who smoke are providing a negative role model to younger students.
- Student smokers are bringing the name of the school into disrepute.

### **What is a smoking incident that will be acted upon by the school?**

- **Smoking at any time while the student is in the care of the school.** (ie smoking on the school campus, on the journey to or from school, or while participating in a school activity away from school.)
- being in possession of cigarettes, a lighter or matches in the situation listed above.
- being with a student who is caught smoking (the tacit approval of peers is a major influence which encourages adolescents to continue inappropriate behaviour).

### **Action**

The school will make every effort to educate students to the dangers of smoking through the programs we have operating at school – Health, Pastoral Care, Grade Assemblies and counseling.

**Consequences will be applied automatically, to students found contravening the School's Drug Policy related to smoking.**

#### **First of infringement:**

Completion of Quit smoking Unit in student's own time to be returned the next day and letter sent home.

#### **Second infringement:**

Completion of Quit Smoking DVD Unit during lunch time detentions, restricted areas at recess and lunch time and letter sent home.

#### **Third infringement:**

A period of suspension (2 days) as the student has continued to defy school/state rules and regulations. Letter of suspension sent home.