

RATIONALE

Biba Academy recognises the harm caused by smoking, in particular the links between smoking and disadvantage and our duty of care to safeguard the health and wellbeing of our clients, staff and volunteers. Smoke free areas support smokers who are trying to stop smoking and also reduces overall cigarette consumption.

Occupational health and safety legislation require employers to keep workplaces they are in charge of safe and without risk to the health of any person.

In addition, the Tobacco Amendment Act 2016 (Vic) requires many public places and workplaces to be smoke free. From 1 August 2017 the use of electronic cigarettes will also be prohibited in all legislated smoke free areas.

For more information on these laws, see the Victorian Department of Health website on Tobacco Reforms at www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/tobacco-reform.

Accordingly, the following policy has been developed by Biba Academy

TIMING

This policy is effective from 1st July 2019

WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE POLICY?

This policy applies to all employees, clients, visitors, residents, contracted services and volunteers of the Biba Academy while on company premises.

POSITION ON ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES

Electronic cigarettes may be harmful to users and to those exposed to secondhand vapor therefore this policy also applies to the use of electronic cigarettes.

This policy therefore applies to both electronic cigarettes and traditional cigarettes. Electronic cigarettes are not permitted to be used in any of the smoke free areas referred to in this policy.

SUPPORTING STAFF MEMBERS AND CLIENTS WHO SMOKE

To help staff and clients who wish to cut down or stop smoking, [service] will provide assistance for people to adjust to the changes. This includes:

- promoting the Quitline (13 7848)
- providing printed health information
- providing free/subsidised nicotine replacement therapy products (such as patches for 12 weeks)
- providing staff education and training to support clients who smoke.

SMOKEFREE AREAS

(Biba Academy has gone totally smoke free)

Biba Academy requires the entire area of the Biba Academy to be smoke free. This includes:

- all indoor areas
- all outdoor areas (both uncovered and covered)
- car parks
- in work vehicles
- in vehicles that are within the boundary of Biba Academy
- The totally smoke free status of our service will be clearly signed at the entrance to, and within Biba Academy.