

TOBACCO CONTROL POLICY

PURPOSE

The educators, staff and management acknowledge the importance of a smoke-free environment that contributes to good health and overall wellbeing. As a health promoting service we will provide a smoke-free environment for children, staff and families through learning, policies, creating a safe and healthy physical and social environment and developing community links and partnerships. This policy confirms our commitment to:

- ensure a smoke-free environment for children, families, BKS staff, volunteers and visitors
- encourage BKS staff to build on opportunistic learning moments with children
- provide information to BKS staff and families about the health benefits of not smoking.

POLICY STATEMENT

VALUES

BKS is committed to:

- providing a safe environment for all children, staff and persons participating in programs at BKS services
- maintaining a duty of care and consider the health, safety and wellbeing of all who come into contact with BKS and provide a safe, secure and welcoming environment.

SCOPE

This policy applies to BKS as the Approved Provider, Nominated Supervisor, BKS staff, students on placement, volunteers, parents/guardians, children and others attending the programs and activities of the BKS, including during offsite excursions and activities.

BACKGROUND AND LEGISLATION

The key to tobacco control in the early years is prevention. The most effective means of prevention is providing an early childhood environment that is supportive and protective of all children. Building resilience and developing social and emotional competencies should start early to enhance the potential for children to resist risky behaviours later on.

SOURCES AND RELATED POLICIES

Legislation and standards

Education and Care Services National Law 2010

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

National Quality Standard 2013

Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 (Vic) (Part 2: principles for children)

Occupational Health and Safety act 2004

National Quality Framework

Occupational Health and Safety policy

Health and Wellbeing Policy

Code of Conduct policy

DEFINITIONS

Resilience: the ability to bounce back from adversity in order to lead a healthy and fulfilling life.

Social and emotional competence: the ability to recognise and manage emotions, develop caring and concern for others, make responsible decisions, establish positive relationships and handle challenging situations capably.

PROCEDURES

BKS as the Approved Provider is responsible for:

- ensuring all staff contribute to implementation of the tobacco control policy
- ensuring all staff and families are provided with information about policy requirements
- ensuring all BKS Services provide a totally smoke-free environment
- Promote and encourage compliance with the tobacco legislation with contract agreements with stakeholders, suppliers, providers of services, and all users of service facilities
- Upon request, supporting staff who smoke to quit or manage their smoking
- supporting educators, staff, families contractors and visitors to role model smoke-free behaviour in line with this policy and refrain from smoking whilst in view of children
- supporting staff to provide tobacco education and related health message learning moments
- supporting educators to access resources, tools and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to provide opportunistic learning about tobacco education and prevention initiatives
- engage local health professional, services and other organisations to increase educator and staff capacity to deliver and promote tobacco education and prevention initiatives.

Staff and Educators are encouraged to:

- contribute to the development and implementation of the tobacco control policy
- provide information to families about policy requirements
- provide a totally smoke-free environment
- ensure all service sanctioned events (both on and off premises) including excursions, fetes and celebrations are totally smoke-free
- ensure compliance with the tobacco legislation
- support families, contractors and visitors to role model smoke-free behaviour in line with this policy and refrain from smoking whilst in view of children
- provide tobacco education and related health message learning moments
- engage children, families in supporting smoke-free initiatives.

EVALUATION

This Tobacco Control Policy will be monitored by the BKS Management. In order to assess whether the values and purposes of the policy have been achieved, the BKS as the approved provider will:

- keep the policy up to date with current legislation, research, policy and best practice
- revise the policy and procedures as part of the service's policy review cycle, or as required
- notify employees at least 14 days before making any change to this policy or its procedures.

AUTHORISATION

This policy was adopted by BKS as the Approved Provider on 1st June 2016 and last updated on 1 July 2017.

REVIEW DATE: 1 JULY 2019