

SK'ELEP SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE POLICY

Reference Topic: Smoke and Vapour Product Free

Reference No: 28

Effective Date: December 1, 2016

Tobacco Free Environment (Cigarettes, Chewing Tobacco and Vapour Products)

Policy Statement/Goals

The Sk'elep Board honours the traditional use of tobacco as a sacred plant. However, the Board recognizes that the abuse of tobacco products (cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and vapour products) may cause serious human health problems. The Board encourages all efforts to eliminate and prevent the non-traditional use and/or misuse of tobacco products by the students and staff of the School. The Board's goal is to assist in the creation of a tobacco free School environment by ensuring that all Sk'elep School facilities, vehicles and grounds are tobacco/smoke free.

Regulations

1. The Sk'elep School building, grounds, buses, and vehicles are to be smoke and vapour product free at all times.
2. Students are not allowed to smoke or use vapour products in the School or on School grounds. Students caught in the act of smoking or using vapour products shall be suspended for the remainder of the day (suspension may be in- school or the student may be sent home). If the student continues to re-offend, he/she will be subject to a longer term suspension or other discipline measures as determined by the Principal in consultation with the Board.
3. All School grounds shall be smoke and vapour product free.
4. School staff will cooperate with health and community agencies who wish to provide smoking reduction, prevention and cessation programs.
5. Any student selling or in possession of tobacco or vapour products during anytime the School has jurisdiction over the behaviour of students, will be disciplined in accordance with Sk'elep School and Board discipline policies up to and including suspension.
6. Infractions or violations of this policy and its regulations shall result in appropriate discipline by the Principal or the Board.
7. The Board will identify an outdoor designated smoking area for staff members that is not normally within sight of students.
8. The School will prepare and display informative signage (for groups and organizations that are using or renting School facilities) regarding the tobacco/smoke/vapour free policy.
9. Elders will teach Sk'elep School students about the traditional history and uses of tobacco as a sacred plant and medicine.