



KIRWAN STATE HIGH SCHOOL

SMOKING POLICY

Cigarettes and Tobacco

Queensland's smoking laws are governed by the *Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998* (the Act) and the *Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Regulation 2021*. Tobacco and other smoking products cannot be sold to a person under 18 years of age.

Electronic Cigarettes

Electronic cigarettes are also known as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, vape pens or personal vapourisers. Using these devices is commonly referred to as 'vaping'.

Under the Act, electronic cigarettes (regardless of whether they contain nicotine or not) and related products are smoking products and subject to the Queensland smoking laws.

This includes that electronic cigarettes cannot be sold to children under 18 years of age. In Queensland, electronic cigarettes and electronic cigarette products containing nicotine are illegal unless prescribed.

Responsibilities

Students

Students must comply with the school's Prohibited Items Policy by not bringing property onto the school grounds or other settings used by the school that:

- are a prohibited item.
- is illegal.
- puts the safety and wellbeing of others at risk.
- does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive and productive learning environment.
- does not maintain and foster mutual respect.

Parents

Parents/Caregivers must ensure their child complies with the school's Prohibited Items Policy by not bringing property onto the school grounds or other settings used by the school that:

- are a prohibited item.
- is illegal.
- puts the safety and wellbeing of others at risk.
- does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive and productive learning environment.
- does not maintain and foster mutual respect.

School

The school must inform parents/caregivers of school policies and procedures. Staff must follow school policies and procedures.

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Safety Concerns

Electronic cigarettes work by heating a liquid, into a fine vapour for inhalation into the lungs. Products vary widely in design and operation, but typically consist of a battery, heating element, and a cartridge or refillable tank containing substances such as propylene glycol, vegetable glycerine, nicotine and flavourings.

Electronic cigarettes and electronic cigarette products may:

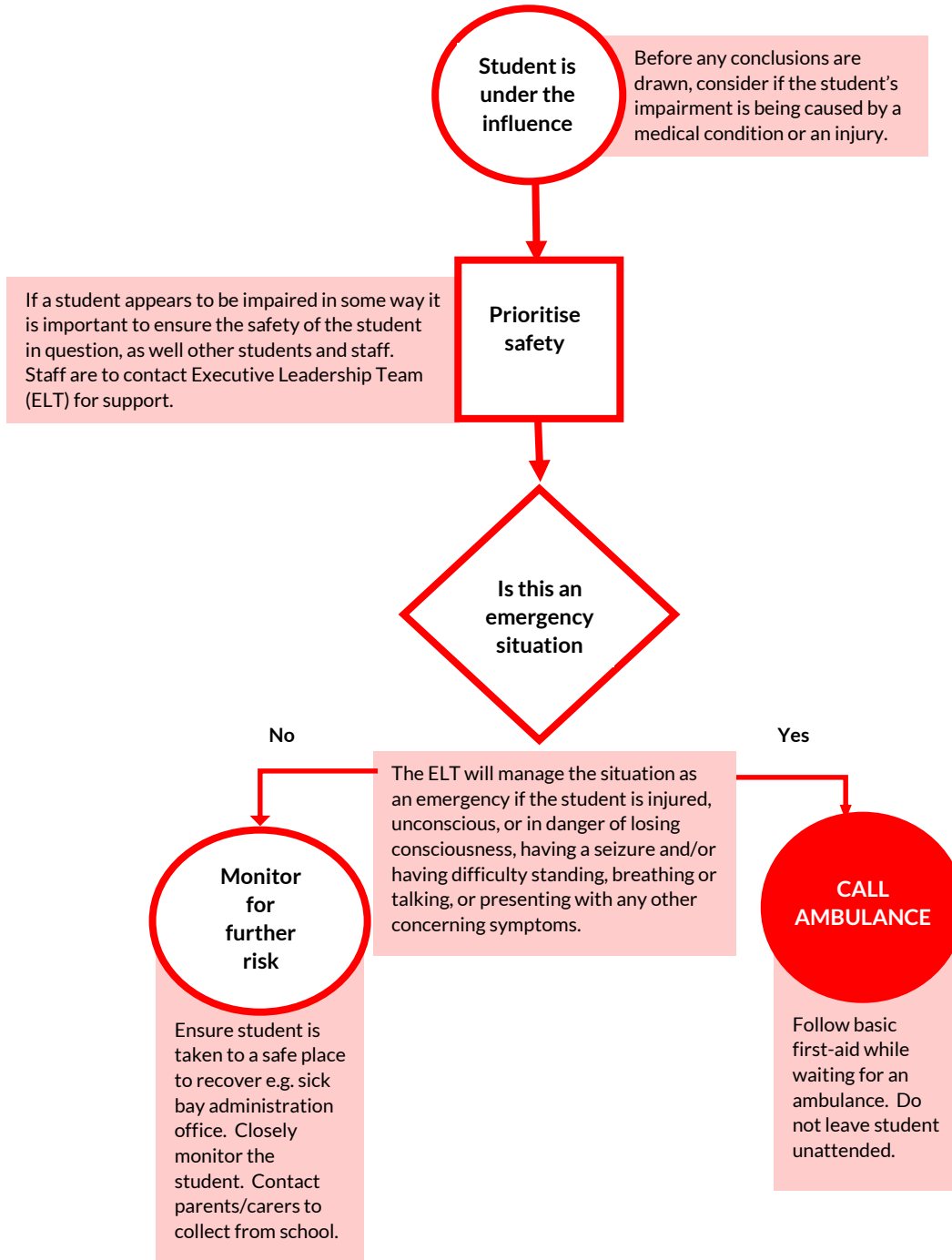
- deliver unreliable doses of nicotine.
- leak their contents.
- be a poisoning risk, particularly for children.
- not list the presence and/or actual strength of nicotine on the product label.
- contain other unknown, possibly toxic chemicals.
- have incorrect or inconsistent labelling and unsafe packaging.
- encourage the uptake of smoking.
- have no child safety measures.

Nicotine is a dangerous poison and can cause serious injury and death. It can be absorbed through the skin.

Liquid nicotine refill for electronic cigarettes are particularly dangerous to younger children who might be attracted by the packaging and the use of fruit and confectionery flavouring, such as chocolate, bubble gum, apple, and watermelon.

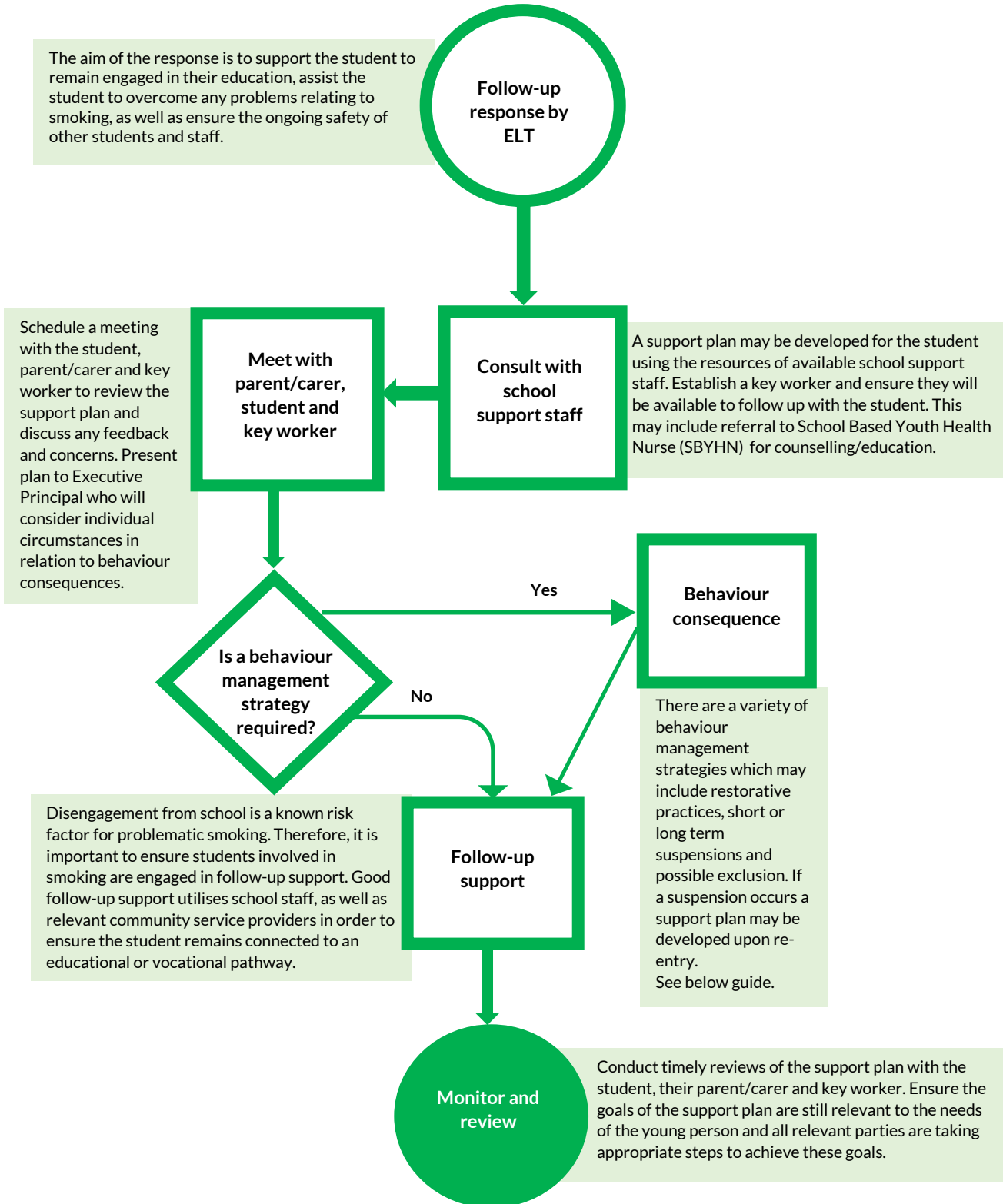
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Under the Influence of Nicotine



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Consequence Guidelines



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Considerations of Individual Circumstances

Staff at Kirwan State High School considers students' individual circumstances, such as their behaviour history, verified disability, diagnosed mental health and wellbeing, religious and cultural considerations, home environment and care arrangements when teaching expectations, responding to inappropriate behaviour or applying a disciplinary consequence. Kirwan State High School responds to inappropriate behaviour with a restorative approach.

In considering the individual circumstances of each student, we recognise that the way we teach, the support we provide and the way we respond to students will differ. This reflects the principle of equality, where every student is given the support they need to be successful. This also means that not everyone will be treated the same, because treating everyone the same is not fair. Our staff are also obliged by law to respect and protect the privacy of individual students, so while we understand the interest of other students, staff and parents to know what consequence another student might have received, we will not disclose or discuss this information with anyone but with the student and their family or caregivers. This applies even if the behavioural incident involves your child. You can be assured that school staff take all matters seriously and will address them appropriately. We expect that parents and students will respect the privacy of other students and families.

If you have concerns about the behaviour of another student at the school, or the way our staff have responded to their behaviour, please make an appointment with the Executive Principal to discuss the matter.

Education and Support

The school encourages students and parents/caregivers to refer to the following information to support students who possess, use or supply/distribute tobacco.

Kirwan State High School Youth Health Nurse. Appointments can be made with the Youth Health Nurse through the school Administration Office 47738111 or email: SBYN@kirwanshs.eq.edu.au.

Townsville Community Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs [ATODS]

Monday to Friday: 8:00am to 4:00pm

35-43 Gregory Street, North Ward

North Ward

Phone: 07 4433 9600

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Review

The Kirwan State High School Smoking Policy will undergo annual minor updates to reflect changing circumstances, data and staff.

A fulsome review is conducted every four years in line with the scheduled review process for the School Planning, Reviewing and Reporting cycle.

Consultation

The Kirwan State High School Smoking Policy was developed in consultation with the school community, including:

- Teaching and non-teaching staff.
- Student Representative Council.
- Parents and Citizens (P&C)
- School Council.

Endorsement

The Kirwan State High School Tobacco Policy has been informed by:

- Education (General Provisions) Act 2006;
- Department of Education: Student Discipline Procedure;
- Kirwan State High School Student Code of Conduct;
- Kirwan State High School Prohibited Items Policy;
- Kirwan State High School Temporary Removal of Student Property Policy;
- Queensland Health: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/topics/atod/tobacco-laws>; and
- Queensland Health: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/topics/atod/tobacco-laws/electronic-cigarette>.

Endorsed by:



Heather Murry
Executive Principal



Bella van Krieken
School Captain



Yohann
Abordo
School Captain



JJ Taylor
P&C President



Rick Phineasa
School Council Chair

Date of Approval: 10 May 2022