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## SMOKE FREE COLLEGE POLICY

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### RATIONALE

CBC Fremantle is a smoke-free environment in recognition of the health hazards associated with exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) and requirement to comply with legislation.

The Tobacco Products Control Act 2006 legislates against smoking in enclosed public places and the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 requires an employer, so far as practicable, to provide and maintain a working environment in which the employees are not exposed to hazards.

Passive (environmental) smoking can occur when people near a person smoking tobacco breathe in the smoke involuntarily. This can cause disease, including lung cancer and heart disease, and premature death. There is no safe level of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.

It is particularly harmful for children, who are more likely to experience ear problems, severe asthma, and respiratory infections. (*NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence*)

### SCOPE

Smoking is prohibited anywhere within the College grounds, during college activities and College-related events, and in college vehicles or vehicles being used for work purposes. This prohibition covers the use of all smoking products, including e-cigarettes.

Smoking at or within five metres of a public entrance to the College grounds is prohibited and may be enforced by law.

### DEFINITIONS

Smoking: the use or consumption of tobacco products (e.g. cigarettes), non-tobacco smoking products or electronic cigarettes.

Smoking products: tobacco products (e.g. cigarettes), non-tobacco smoking products and electronic cigarettes.

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes): devices that heat a liquid to produce a vapour that users inhale. The use of e-cigarettes is commonly known as 'vaping'.

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### **THE HAZARD – SMOKING**

Tobacco smoke is a health hazard to all workers who may be exposed to it and has been directly linked to a range of serious diseases including lung cancer and heart disease. Smoking is not only a health hazard to the smoker but also to any worker who is exposed to passive smoking through the breathing of air contaminated by tobacco smoke.

The smoking of e-cigarettes that may contain nicotine or other harmful chemicals and may expose users and bystanders to chemicals that are harmful to health.

### **THE LEGISLATION**

All Australian states and territories now have legislation banning workplace smoking except in a limited number of exempt designated areas.

### **WORKERS' RESPONSIBILITY**

Workers are responsible for ensuring that they comply with this policy.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

This policy is implemented through a combination of:

- clear communication of expected staff conduct
- effective signage (including appropriate 'no smoking' signs)
- effective incident notification procedures
- initiation of corrective actions where necessary

### **DISCIPLINE FOR BREACH OF POLICY**

Where a staff member breaches this policy CBC Fremantle may take disciplinary action.