

# Early Childhood Services

## Benchmarks for Tobacco Control



### Healthy Policies

#### 1. A whole service tobacco policy is in place.

- The policy addresses smokefree practices on service premises and at all service sanctioned events.
- Educators, staff and families are involved in guiding tobacco policy and practices.
- Educators, staff and families are provided with information about policy requirements.
- Cultural tobacco practices are considered when developing and implementing this policy.
- The policy aligns with the service's statement of philosophy and is cross-referenced with other relevant policies (e.g. alcohol and other drugs)..
- The policy can be stand-alone or incorporated into a whole-service health and wellbeing policy.

#### 2. The service has a staff health and wellbeing policy which supports smokefree practices.

### Healthy Physical Environment

#### 3. The service provides a totally smokefree environment.

- Smokefree signage is clearly displayed at entrances, office reception and other key visible locations.
- All service sanctioned events (on/off premises), including excursions, fetes and celebrations are totally smokefree.
- Contract agreements with stakeholders, suppliers, providers of services and users of service facilities ensure compliance with the tobacco legislation.

### Healthy Social Environment

#### 4. Staff who smoke are supported to quit or manage their smoking.

#### 5. Staff and families recognise they are role models and present smokefree behaviour.

- Staff, service contractors, families and visitors model smokefree behaviour and refrain from smoking whilst in view of children.

### Learning and Skills

#### 6. Tobacco prevention education and related health messages are reinforced in opportunistic learning moments.

#### 7. Educators are supported to access resources, tools and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to deliver tobacco education and prevention initiatives across the curriculum.

### Engaging Children, Young People, Staff and Families

#### 8. Families, children, educators and staff are key partners in developing and supporting smokefree initiatives.

- Families, educators and staff are provided with information, ideas and practical strategies on a regular basis to promote and support smokefree behaviour in the service and at home.
- The service engages families in smokefree initiatives.
- Educators and staff are encouraged to develop competencies to facilitate engagement of families and children from diverse cultural backgrounds.

### Community Partnerships

#### 9. Educators and staff are encouraged to work with local health professionals, services and organisations to increase their capacity to deliver and promote tobacco education and prevention initiatives.

- Links are established with local health professionals, services and organisations to support smokefree initiatives.
- The service provides information to staff and families about local support to quit smoking as required.
- Partner organisations comply with smokefree strategies identified in the service's tobacco policy at service events on and off site.