

ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL CENTRE

POLICY ON SMOKING

1. INTRODUCTION

- a) The Islamic Educational Centre acknowledges its responsibility to promote healthy lifestyles. To this end, it acknowledges that tobacco use is extremely dangerous to the health of both smokers and non-smokers and warrants, in the interest of its employees, learners and the public, a policy to protect them from the hazardous effects of tobacco products.
- b) The IEC also acknowledges that the extent of the effects of smoking on health calls for strong action to deter people from taking up smoking and to encourage existing smokers to give up smoking.
- c) It is further acknowledged that the IEC has an obligation to protect learners and employees from being bombarded by messages that associate tobacco products with glamour, success and prosperity as these learners will start a life-long and deadly addiction from an early age.

2. PURPOSE

To provide a policy with regard to the prohibition of smoking within the precincts of the Islamic Educational Centre, that includes offices, classrooms, toilets, grounds and .

3. REFERENCE

This policy has been formulated with due regard to the provisions of the Tobacco Product Control Act, 1993 (Act 83 of 1993) as amended by the Tobacco Product Control Amendment Act, 1999 (Act 12 of 1999).

4. DEFINITION OF TERMS

"Public place" means any indoor or enclosed area which is open to the public or any part of the school including the workplace.

"Workplace"

- Means any indoor or enclosed area in which employees (educators, cleaners, administrative staff) perform their duties of their employment.; and
- Includes any corridor, lobby, stairway, tuckshop, washroom, toilet or other common area frequented by such employees, learners or members of the public.

"Smoke" means to inhale, exhale, hold or otherwise have control over an ignited tobacco product, weed or plant, and "smoked" and "smoking" has corresponding meaning.

"The Act" refers to the **Tobacco Product Control Act, 1993 (Act 83 of 1993) as amended by the Tobacco Product Control Amendment Art, 1999 (Act 12 of 1999).**

"Advertisement", in relation to any tobacco product, means any drawn, still or moving picture, sign, symbol, other visual image or message or audible message aimed at the public and designed to promote or publicise a tobacco product or to promote smoking behaviour and includes the use in any advertisement or promotion aimed at the public of a tobacco product manufacturer's company name where the name or any part of the name is used as or is included in a tobacco product trade mark, and "advertise" and "advertising"¹ has a corresponding meaning.

"Organised activity" means any activity or event -

- a) which the learners attend or participate in; and/or
- b) which is organized for the purposes of sport or recreation or for educational or cultural purposes including school fetes, concerts, exhibitions and excursions.

5. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

This policy is applicable to all learners, employees of the Islamic Educational Centre and members of the public visiting the school.

6. POLICY PROVISIONS

6.1 The smoking of tobacco products within the precincts of the Islamic Educational Centre offices is strictly prohibited.

6.2 In all cases, the rights of the non-smokers to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being shall take precedence over an employee's desire to smoke.

6.3 Smoking in official vehicles used to transport staff and learners is prohibited.

6.4 Members of the staff are required to remind anyone smoking on the premises, of the school policy on smoking. Employees and members of the public who wish to smoke may smoke outside the school premises and outside official working hours.

6.5 The Islamic Educational Centre will support staff members who seek assistance in giving up smoking

6.6 The advertising and/or promotion of tobacco products in any way is prohibited on the school precincts.

6.7 The organisation and promotion of any organised activity in any office or room within the school shall not be sponsored and/or financed in whole or in part by any manufacturer, importer, distributor or retailer of tobacco products.

6.8 The distribution and/or supply of any tobacco product for free or at a reduced price within the offices/grounds of the school by any manufacturer, distributor or importer is also prohibited.

6.9 The selling and/or supplying of any tobacco products to persons under 16 years of age, whether for their personal use or not, is an offence in terms of the Act.

7. RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the Shura to institute disciplinary measures in case of non compliance with the provision of this policy. The legislation provides for punitive measures against any individual who undermines legislation, and the constitutional rights of others, and such sanctions can and will be enforced by the Department of Education, and law enforcement agencies.

8. CONCLUSION

This policy is designed to secure a healthy and safe environment for employees, learners and the public as well as to eliminate passive smoking within the premises.

Moreover, the Islamic Educational Centre acknowledges the rights of individuals, and therefore, the provisions of this policy will not be applied to unfairly discriminate against smokers in any way whatsoever.