

South Coast Smoke and Vape-Free School Challenge

Teachers in Bass Coast and South Gippsland shires (South Coast) are invited to get Year 8 students involved in the Smoke and Vape-Free School Challenge!



During the challenge, Year 8 students are encouraged to take on the role of community health researchers to create innovative campaigns that promote a smoke and vape-free future for everyone.

Students may choose to do this by (but not limited to) creating a video, poster, social media campaign, advocacy letter or persuasive essay.

Student campaigns might:

- Advocate for more smoke and vape-free areas in public spaces
- Promote the benefits of not smoking or vaping for individuals, the community or the environment
- Advocate for a new school or community smoke and vape-free policy
- Showcase a range of support options that can help people to stop smoking and vaping.

The challenge could be implemented across curriculum areas including Health and Physical Education, Science, English, Civics and Citizenship, and Media Arts!

South Coast Smoke and Vape-Free School Challenge Guide:

As part of the challenge, Health Promotion Officers from the South Coast Prevention Team are available to deliver two classroom sessions with students.

Session One:

- The team will provide students with an introduction to smoking and vaping (including harms, data, marketing strategies, legislation and support services), explore existing smoking and vaping prevention campaigns, run a campaign analysis activity and provide tips for creating effective and engaging campaigns.
- Students will work in groups of 2-3 to begin planning their campaign using a worksheet.

During subsequent lessons, teachers will support students to bring together their learnings to create campaigns that promotes a smoke and vape-free future. Supporting resources are available in the [Smoke and Vape-Free Toolkit for Schools in Bass Coast and South Gippsland](#).

Session Two:

- Students will present their campaigns to their peers, teacher and Health Promotion Officers from the South Coast Prevention Team.

If you would like Health Promotion Officers from the South Coast Prevention Team to visit your class, please call 0438 057 040 or email prevention@basscoasthealth.org.au

South Coast Smoke and Vape-Free School Challenge Conditions of Entry:

- The South Coast Smoke and Vape-Free School Challenge is open to Year 8 classes from schools in Bass Coast and South Gippsland shires.
- Schools with combined Year 7 and 8 classes are welcome to participate.
- The challenge opens on Monday 20 April 2026 (start of Term 2).
- The challenge closes on Friday 18 September 2026 (end of Term 3).
- To enter the challenge, school staff can submit their top 5 campaigns to prevention@basscoasthealth.org.au.
- The winning campaigns will be selected by the South Coast Prevention Team using a [marking rubric](#).
- The students who create the top 3 campaigns will each receive a \$50 Active Gift Card.
- All participating schools will be notified of the winning student campaigns by Friday 16 October 2026.
- The challenge winners will be announced and promoted through local media.

For questions about the Smoke and Vape-Free School Challenge please contact the [South Coast Prevention Team](#) on 0438 057 040 or email prevention@basscoasthealth.org.au