# Operational Policy: Smoke Free Policy (NAG 6)

## Blind & Low Vision Education Network NZ

## Statement of Intent:

The Blind & Low Vision Education Network NZ (BLENNZ) will comply with the Smokefree Environments Act 1990, and any amendments to this act, as well as other laws requiring smokefree environments.

Whilst the current Smoke-Free Environments Act only prohibits smoking of tobacco products within school grounds, BLENNZ recognises that the health and well-being of ākonga, staff and other users of BLENNZ may be negatively affected by all types of smoking including e-cigarettes and vaping. To prevent second-hand exposure to tobacco smoke and to de-normalise smoking around ākonga, BLENNZ will provide a totally smokefree environment, including the use of e-cigarettes and vaping, at its Homai Campus and other buildings occupied by its staff or students. BLENNZ includes all Visual Resource Centres, Homai Campus buildings and grounds, all accommodation facilities and all owned or leased vehicles used by BLENNZ in the course of its business.

## Policy Requirements:

1. Smoking shall not be permitted anywhere within the buildings or grounds of BLENNZ at any time, nor at any official BLENNZ activity during times when staff are working with ākonga such as education outside the classroom (EOTC), immersion courses, sports events etc. If staff wish to smoke during break times while attending off campus activites they must remove themselves from the presence of ākonga.

2. Organisations or individuals using BLENNZ facilities must comply with this policy as a condition of use.

3. Contractors and others working within BLENNZ property are to be advised of BLENNZ’s smoke-free policy and that the policy applies to them whilst on the property.

4. “No smoking” signs shall be displayed throughout the BLENNZ Homai Campus, and other BLENNZ occupied buildings nationally. These signs will include the non use of e-cigarettes and vaping.

5. Families and other adults staying in BLENNZ accommodation are to be advised prior to their arrival of the BLENNZ smoke-free policy, and then reminded either when arriving at BLENNZ or during their organised induction of the facilities.

## Supporting Documents:

[Government legislation website - Smoke Free Environments Act](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1990/0108/latest/DLM223191.html)

Approved: 

Date: December 2021

Next Review: 2024