

Prevention of Vaping and E-Cigarette Use in Secondary Schools

Evaluation Summary

The Prevention of Vaping and E-cigarette Use in Secondary Schools initiative was developed by the South Coast Prevention Team to combat the rising epidemic of vaping and e-cigarette use among young people. It was delivered in secondary schools in the Bass Coast and South Gippsland local government areas. Evaluation data was collected between March 2023 - June 2024 from students, school staff, workshop facilitators and parents and carers.

A Snapshot of Key Evaluation Findings:

1860 students from 6 schools attended a vaping prevention workshop (total of 42 workshops)

Workshops impacted students' perceptions, knowledge and behaviours towards vaping

Resources were distributed to 10 schools to support a whole-school approach to prevent vaping

86% of students reported the workshop content helped them better understand the harms of vaping

86% of students post workshop felt 'confident' or 'very confident' to say 'no' if someone offered them a vape

62% of school staff reported the workshop significantly improved their understanding of the impacts of vaping

67% of parents and carers reported that they had conversations with their child about vaping after the workshop

Parents and carers reported the provided resources helped them be more informed for vaping discussions

50% of secondary schools were active in displaying 'No Smoking or Vaping' signage



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This evaluation was undertaken with support from Monash University

The initiative was effective in several key areas;

- 1. Understanding Vaping Harms**
- 2. Access to Factual Information**
- 3. Awareness of Marketing Manipulation**
- 4. Improved Student Self-Efficacy to Not Vape**
- 5. Whole-School Approach to Prevent Vaping**

Here's What They Said:

*It was important and expanded my knowledge
(Male student, 13 years old)*

*I learnt more about how they harm and am very sure now that I never want to vape
(Female student, 14 years old)*

*It provides expert information in a language they understand
(Secondary teacher)*

It created dinner table conversation the night after the workshop (Parent)

*Little kids can see it and shouldn't be exposed to its influence of sweet smell, colour or second-hand smoke risk
(Female student, 15 years old)*

This is an issue of significant concern to my Year 8 student, who is distressed that her peers are vaping - she is horrified by it! I am glad that programs like yours are being implemented to assist those who are vaping to make a more informed choice (Parent)

*Kids will choose to vape or not on social influences; some will choose not to because of this lesson
(Secondary teacher)*



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