

Protect the health  
of your children

A guide to  
making your  
home and car  
smokefree



# What's the issue?

**Smoking around children and young people is harmful.**

Why?

- They will be exposed to second-hand smoke, and children who breathe in second-hand smoke are more likely to develop illnesses such as chest infections, glue ear and asthma.

*Second-hand smoke is a mix of smoke from the burning end of a cigarette plus the smoke blown into the air by the person smoking.*

- Exposure to second-hand smoke increases the risk of sudden unexpected death in infancy (SUDI).
- Young people who have friends / family / whānau who smoke are more likely to become smokers.

**From 28 November 2021 it will be illegal to smoke in a vehicle that has children in it.**

**Make your car smokefree**

**Kia auahi kore ō tātou waka**

# Second-hand smoke

**Second-hand smoke contains more than 200 poisons, some of which can cause cancer.**

- The concentration of some poisons is higher in second-hand smoke than in the smoke being breathed in by the smoker.
- The lungs and body weight of children are small so the poisons found in second-hand smoke are more harmful to them.
- Babies and young children may not be able to move away from second-hand smoke.



## **Second-hand smoke in your home.**

- Opening a window will not remove all of the poisons.
- The poisons will linger long after the smoke and smell have disappeared.

**Make your home smokefree**

**Kia auahi kore ō tātou whare**

# Easy steps to making your home and car smokefree

- Make a rule – your home and car are smokefree at all times for everyone.
- Remove all ashtrays from your home.
- Clean out your car ashtray.
- Remove the cigarette lighter from your car.
- Let other people know – put Smokefree/Auahi Kore stickers on your windows.
- Ask your family and whānau to support you by not smoking in your home and car.

***Be a positive role model and don't smoke around children at any time. They'll be less likely to become smokers.***

For further information visit:  
[www.smokefree.org.nz/secondhandsmoke](http://www.smokefree.org.nz/secondhandsmoke)  
or contact your nearest public health unit:  
[www.health.govt.nz/phucontacts](http://www.health.govt.nz/phucontacts)

If you need support to stop smoking visit:  
[www.quitstrong.nz](http://www.quitstrong.nz) or contact  
Quitline on 0800 778 778 or  
text QUIT to 4006.

New Zealand Government

