

Non-Smoking Policy

For a Smoke-Free School

Aims

To create a smoke-free school

Objectives

- The school has a duty of care to protect the health, safety and welfare of its staff and pupils.
- School recognises that tobacco smoke, including secondary smoke inhaled from another person's lit tobacco, is a public health hazard and can cause cancer, strokes, heart disease and respiratory disease in both smokers and non-smokers.
- This policy prohibits smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes or other tobacco products on the school site at any time.
- The school recognises that vaping and e-cigarettes are considered a helpful tool in supporting adults in stopping smoking cigarettes. However, we also recognise the rise in young people vaping and our responsibility as a school to educate our children to the known risks of vaping.

Any references to smoking in this policy include all of the above, including 'vaping'.

Rationale

- Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in the UK.
- Second-hand Smoke – “breathing other people's tobacco smoke” causes at least 2,700 people to die a year. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, heart disease and cause the onset of asthma, chest and ear infections and cot death in children. More than 17,000 children under the age of five are admitted to hospital every year because of the effects of second-hand smoke.
- The school under the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) has a duty of care to provide a healthy work environment
- Everyone has the right to a smoke-free environment
- Schools have a major role to play in health education and prevention
- Young people need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models within the school. It has been shown that the biggest factor affecting youth smoking is prevalence of adult smoking and young people's exposure to seeing smoking (ASH 2004)

Smoking will NOT be permitted (this includes e-cigarettes) in any part of the school premises, including the grounds within the boundary fences.

The enforcement of this smoking policy will be the responsibility of all designated responsible persons within the school. The school's disciplinary procedure will apply for dealing with employees who breach the smoking ban at work. Employees who raise genuine concerns about breaches of this policy will be protected from victimisation.

This policy applies when pupils are taken off-site on trips and visits. Staff will be reminded that smoking is not permitted when on duty/looking after children.

Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to leave the premises.

The smoking policy will apply to all activities held on school premises including those held both during school hours and out of school hours.

This includes all social and sporting events, and any meetings organised, which are attended by school employees as part of their work and /or visitors to such meetings/events.

Employees should avoid being seen smoking in public in sight of pupils, parents and visitors in order to enforce a comprehensive approach.

Non-compliance by pupils will be dealt with in agreement of the schools Disciplinary Procedure.

There will be NO designated smoking area provided within the school premises. During the school day, staff who wish to smoke, will remove themselves from the school premises and grounds during that time.

Cigarettes, vapes or smoking paraphernalia, are all prohibited items in school. If a child were found in possession of them, they would be confiscated and destroyed in line with the *Screening, Searching and Confiscation* guidance from the Department for Education.

Facilities for Smokers

No facilities for smoking in the workplace will be provided although support will be given to smokers to assist them to stop smoking if they require it. Please see (**Help with smoking cessation**).

The smoking ban will apply to all school owned/hired/leased vehicles. No one will be allowed to smoke inside any school owned/hired leased vehicles.

Employees are asked to refrain from smoking in their own vehicles when on school business, and when carrying passengers.

Help with smoking Cessation

The school will support employees in school wishing to give up smoking by advertising and promoting <https://www.smokefreelifeberkshire.com/> Stop Smoking Services. The Services offered include group and one-to-one therapy. Where practicable, requests from employees to attend smoking cessation programmes during working hours will be supported.

Education and Publicity

Suitable posters and NO Smoking Signs will be displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message, which supports a Smoke-free working environment.

New Buildings

This policy will apply equally to all future premises at the design stage of any new building and refurbishment or relocation project.

Appointments

This school is a No Smoking school and this should be made clear within all its appointments procedures, staff handbooks and the school prospectus.

Links

Health and Safety

The above policy on smoking at work forms part of the school's Health and Safety Policy arrangements.

Healthy Schools

The policy was developed following recommended good practice from the Healthy Schools Programme.

Drug Education

Cigarettes contain tobacco which is a drug thus linking the School's Non-Smoking Policy to drug education and opportunities with the DfE and APCO 'Drug Advice for schools' (2012)

Vaping Guidance

[Advice and Guidance: Managing Vapes in School](#) from ADPH South East.

Review

This will be reviewed every two years. This policy was adopted by the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee (FPP) on 13th October 2025.