



# **Non-Smoking Campus Policy**

Accepted:	Review Date:
September 2016	September 2018

## Introduction

Whitehouse Primary School acknowledges that smoking and breathing other people's tobacco smoke is a health hazard and therefore smoking in public places is banned to protect both students, staff and parents from the harmful effects of smoke. This policy affords e-cigarettes the same restrictions as tobacco, for the following reasons:

- The safety of e-cigarettes has not been scientifically demonstrated as the chemicals used have not been fully disclosed and there is no adequate data on their emissions;
- Concerns that e-cigarettes might reinforce the smoking habit as they are designed to closely mimic smoking actions.

This policy aims to:

- Highlight to all who use Whitehouse Primary School that it is a 'smoke free' environment within the perimeter of the grounds;
- Enable the school to tackle smoking-related issues;
- Raise awareness of the dangers associated with exposure to tobacco smoke and reinforce the school's health education programme;
- Satisfy requirements of the Health & Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order;
- Demonstrate the school's commitment to promoting the health of pupils and staff;
- Provide information and advice for those who wish to stop smoking.

## School Environment

- Whitehouse Primary School site is an entirely smoke free environment. Smoking is not permitted on the school grounds or in any part of the school buildings.
- This policy applies to staff, pupils, parents, visitors and contractors when they are on the school site.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the school grounds or buildings at any time. This includes school events held outside normal school hours, or at any time when a pupil is wearing school uniform, regardless of location, including travelling to and from the school.
- Organisations and clubs who use the school premises outside of school hours are expected to adhere to the school's No Smoking Policy.
- All transport provided by the school is smoke free and will display the compulsory signage as required by the Health Act.

## Staff

- The teaching staff and governors must have a clear understanding of the damage that cigarette smoking and second hand smoke can do to health and are also aware of tobacco addiction.
- Where possible, staff should link up with the wider community and are encouraged to use the materials available at <http://www.healthyschools.gov.uk>.
- Staff are not permitted to smoke anywhere on the school site which includes the school grounds.
- All staff will be provided with a copy of this policy and new staff will be alerted to the existence of the smoke free environment.
- Breaches of this policy may be subject to disciplinary procedures.

## Parents and Adult Helpers

- Parents and adult helpers will be reminded regularly that the school site is a smoke free environment.
- Parent and adult helpers are not permitted to smoke anywhere on the school site.
- Parents will be requested to refrain from smoking at entrances and exits to the school site. This would be especially important when children are come to and being brought home from school.
- Parents and adult helpers will be asked to refrain from smoking when assisting on any school trips and events.

## Contractors, Visitors and Other Users of the School Site

- All contractors, visitors and users of the school site will be informed of the school's policy on signing in at reception and are not permitted to smoke anywhere on the school site.
- Signage will act as a reminder.
- Contractors, visitors and users of the school site should be discouraged from smoking at exits and entrances to the school grounds, especially in view of students.
- Smoking inside work vehicles on site is not permitted.
- Breaches of the school's No Smoking Policy by contractors should be reported to the relevant company via the Principal.
- Persistent breach may be followed by exclusion from the site. Smoking among adults on school premises, or by teachers during school hours, reinforces the idea that smoking is a normal adult activity and undermines strict prohibition.

## Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

- The senior management team will ensure that all staff takes responsibility for implementing and regularly monitoring students, staff and other adults using the school site to ensure compliance. Overall responsibility for this policy ultimately rests with the Board of Governors.
- The school acknowledges that smoking is an addiction and will ensure that adequate support will be made available to those who want to quit through the school nurse.
- The policy will be reviewed every two years when assess its implementation and effectiveness will be evaluated.