



Non-Smoking and Vaping Policy

Introduction

At St Andrew's CE (VA) Infant School we are committed to the active promotion of a smoke/vapour free environment.

Rationale

With effect from the 1st July 2007 new legislation in relation to the Smoke Free Premises Act came into force and smoking became illegal in certain wholly or substantially enclosed public places. It became an offence to smoke in no smoking premises or to knowingly permit smoking in no smoking premises. The school is responsible for monitoring adherence to this policy, and has prime responsibility for ensuring compliance with the law.

Research shows that children can be harmed by passive smoking, i.e. by inhaling smoke from other people's cigarettes. Seventy per cent of children are exposed to other people's smoke when they go out, and thirty-four per cent are exposed to smoke in their own homes. It is known that smoking is harmful to the unborn babies of mothers who smoke. The effects of vaping are uncertain. For all these reasons, our school does all it can to discourage children from smoking, and to educate them in such a way that they adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Objectives

We aim to:

- help children know and understand the dangers of smoking, and the harmful effects that smoking can have on their bodies;
- equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressure to smoke, either from their peer group, or from society in general;
- ensure that children and staff are not exposed to smoking/vaping on the school premises.

Implementation

Smoking and vaping is prohibited on St Andrew's Infant School premises and on all surrounding grounds, owned or leased by St Andrew's Infant School including the car park.

The dangers of smoking are addressed in KS1 within PSHE & C and in circle time in the Foundation Stage. As well as teaching the children about the effects that smoking has on the body, we engage them in discussions about the reasons why people start to smoke, and what they themselves should do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes. The children's class teacher leads all such discussions in a sensitive manner. S/he encourages the children to explore the views of other people, and to reflect on their own personal opinion.

Parents are regularly reminded that the school is a non-smoking/vaping environment on our newsletters. Signs around the school remind visitors not to smoke/vape.

Staff

We do not allow smoking/vaping on the school premises, as we do not want to present smoking as acceptable. Nor do we wish to present adult smokers as role models. Because of this, we do not allow smoking/vaping in the staffroom or in the school grounds by staff, parents, visitors or contractors. If any members of staff wish to smoke/vape, they must leave the school site. Smoking/vaping is not permitted by anyone accompanying pupils on school visits. Should we find any member of staff smoking/vaping at school, we would consider this a serious breach of the terms of employment.

People smoking/vaping in prohibited areas, should be asked politely to stop and advised that they are breaching the school policy. Refusal to stop is unacceptable and should be reported to the Headteacher /Head of School. Failure to conform to the requirements of the policy by smoking/vaping on school premises or refusing to stop when requested constitutes a disciplinary offence.

Contractors or visitors breaching the policy should be requested to cease smoking/vaping on the premises. A contractor or visitor who refuses to stop smoking/vaping should be required to leave the premises.

Monitoring and reviewing

This policy has been delegated to the Headteacher. It is the role of the Headteacher to ensure that this policy is fully implemented. This policy will be reviewed every two years.

Policy reviewed: January 2012 January 2014, September 2014, September 2016, September 2018.