

Smoking (including e-cigarettes)

Ashchurch Primary School



Approved by: Richard Gibson

Date: July 2021

Last reviewed on: 29.7.21

Next review due by: September 2023 (sooner if appropriate)

Introduction

At Ashchurch Primary School, we value the health and welfare of all within our community as a key priority.

We believe that a healthy and safe environment is important in terms of physical well-being, and is also a vital factor in promoting emotional health, which in turn will affect the raising of standards.

It is important to us that our policy and approach to smoking, vaping and the use of e-cigarettes should reflect changing social attitudes, and actively reflect and support our goals for effective and lasting drugs education.

Throughout this policy, the term 'smoking' includes the use of cigarettes, e-cigarettes and vaping.

In developing our school's policy on smoking, we have sought to:

- ☐ Build on our commitment to community well-being
- ☐ Reinforce our drug education aims
- ☐ Reflect LA policy
- ☐ Meet DfE guidelines
- ☐ Comply with the law on smoking in public places

Aims of the Policy

The policy seeks to:

- ☐ Guarantee a healthy working environment and protect the current and future health of employees, members and visitors
 - ☐ ☐ Guarantee the right of non-smokers to breathe in air free from tobacco smoke
 - ☐ Comply with Health & Safety Legislation and Employment Law
 - ☐ Raise awareness of the dangers associated with exposure to tobacco smoke
 - ☐ Take account of the needs of those who smoke and to support those who wish to stop
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Policy Statement

The term 'smoking' refers to the use of cigarettes, e-cigarettes and vaping.

In accordance with law on smoking in public places, Ashchurch Primary School will not allow smoking in any of its buildings and notices to this effect are displayed at all entrances to the school.

It is the policy of Ashchurch Primary School that smoking will not be allowed anywhere on the school premises, including the playing fields. Smoking is not permitted in vehicles or any vehicles being used on school business. The school will also not permit smoking at any off-site activities, or during educational and other visits. The above applies to everyone involved with the school community in any way:

- ☐ Employees
- ☐ Pupils
- ☐ Voluntary helpers
- ☐ Governors
- ☐ Visitors
- ☐ Outside contractors working on-site
- ☐ Anyone attending our site as a letting

As a school we believe that everyone connected with us has a responsibility to be actively involved in the implementation of our no-smoking policy, and to assist in taking all necessary and appropriate steps to ensure its full implementation.

Smoking and Others

E-Cigarettes – We expect people who use e-cigarettes or 'vape' to use these devices at a reasonable distance from our School.

Whilst it is recognised that there is no current legislation banning these products they remain unlicensed and little is known about the health risks they may cause. E-cigarettes contain liquid nicotine, flavour and other chemicals which are turned into vapour and is inhaled by the user. Our intention is to protect non smokers from being exposed to these vapours which could be potentially harmful, and may cause safety concerns.

Until such time as legislation comes into effect Ashchurch Primary School will take the position of banning the use of these devices on the school site.

Roles and Responsibilities

Head teacher - It is the responsibility of the Head teacher to implement the school no smoking policy and to ensure that all staff are aware of policy and how to deal with any reported incidents.

The Head teacher reports to the governing body about the No Smoking Policy and its effectiveness on request. The Head teacher ensures that all children, parents and visitors know that smoking or is not allowed in school.

Staff - All staff take the issue of smoking seriously. Staff members are expected to inform visitors of the no smoking policy and will intervene where smoking is seen or reported. However they are not expected to enter into any confrontation, which may put their personal safety at risk. They keep their own records and report these to the Head teacher.

Governing Body - The Governing Body support the Head teacher in all attempts to ban smoking within our school grounds. This policy statement makes it very clear that the governing body does not allow smoking to take place in our school.

Children - The children are required to learn of the health risks associated with smoking and to understand that smoking is not allowed within our school.

Disciplinary Action

Any persons who smoke on the premises will be asked to extinguish their cigarette, stop using their e- cigarette and/ or leave the premises. Staff and pupils that breach the no smoking policy will be disciplined appropriately.

Local Support and Other useful contacts for Staff

Support is available for people who wish to stop smoking from the organisations below: ☐

Stop Smoking Gloucestershire

Helpline –01452 595130

Email nhs.stopsmokingservice@nhs.net

Text: QUIT to 80800

<http://www.stopsmokingglos.nhs.uk>

□ Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) – offer confidential advice on problems associated with smoking in the workplace. Tel: (0207) 739 5902. Website: www.ash.org.uk

□ National ‘Giving Up Smoking’ Helpline is on 0800 1690169.

Monitoring and review

The Head teacher, who reports to governors about the effectiveness of this policy on request, monitors this policy on a day-to-day basis and reviews every 2 years.