 

**Name of school**

**Smoking/Vaping Policy**

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| **Date:** | **Coordinator:** |
| **Review Date:**  | **Nominated Governor:** |

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| 1. | **Introduction and Aim** |
|  | As a school we take seriously our duty to promote children and young people’s health and wellbeing. We are committed to creating a smoke/vape free environment and to developing pupil’s knowledge, attitudes and skills in decision making around smoking/vaping. We aim to ensure a whole-school approach to smoking/vaping that protects all members of the school community from the harms of second-hand smoke and to prevent the uptake of, and reduce the prevalence of, smoking/vaping across the school community. |
| 2. | **Scope of this policy** |
|  | For the purposes of this policy the term ‘smoking’ includes any tobacco-based product, while the term ‘vaping’ includes the use of any form of electronic cigarette whether or not it contains nicotine. |
| 3. | **Objectives**  |
|  | The school will: -* Provide a smokefree/vape free environment for the whole school community
* Ensure that smoking/vaping education is part of the school’s progressive entitlement curriculum of drug education / PSHE
* Ensure all staff promote positive attitudes and behaviour in relation to smoking and vaping
* Ensure all staff have the knowledge and understanding of policies, procedures and agreed practice to support the implementation of this policy
* Involve all staff, governors, pupils, parents/carers and members of the wider school community including outside agencies as appropriate, in the development of policy and practice in relation to smoking/vaping
* Display appropriate ‘No Smoking/Vaping’ signs at all the entrances to the school premises and elsewhere in the school as required
* Adopt and support interventions that aim to prevent the uptake of smoking/vaping amongst pupils, staff, parents/carers and members of the wider school community
* Provide support for parents and carers helping them to talk to their children about smoking/vaping and other risk-taking behaviours
* Support pupils, staff and other members of the school community who smoke/vape and wish to stop
* Ensure this policy is applied to all areas of the school and school provision including events off site
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| 4. | **Rationale** |
|  | As a school we are aware that: -* Smoking remains the single largest cause of preventable deaths and one of the largest causes of health inequalities in England. More than 200 people a day die from smoking related illness which could have been prevented. As well as dying prematurely, smokers also suffer many years in poor health. Many of the conditions caused by smoking are chronic illnesses which can be debilitating for the sufferer and make it difficult to carry out day to day tasks and engage with society
* Secondhand smoke contains many chemicals that pollute the air around a person who is smoking, with some of them causing extreme harm to the health of those nearby, especially children and young people with developing lungs
* Smoking has been prohibited by law in virtually all enclosed and substantially enclosed workplaces and public places throughout the United Kingdom since July 2007. Smokefree legislation in England forms part of the [Health Act 2006](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/28/contents) and [The Children and Families Act 2014](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted)
* Vaping is not for children and young people. While it can help adults stop smoking, NHS advice is that if you don’t smoke don’t vape
* Vape products are not currently (November 2021) licensed medicines but are regulated by the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations (2016)
* Whilst it is illegal to sell cigarettes or nicotine containing vapes to under-18s, it is not illegal to smoke or vape underage. Our response to pupils found to be smoking or vaping is proportionate to this law
* It is illegal to purchase tobacco products/vapes on behalf of anyone under the age of 18 years, this includes parent, carer, family or friends
* Vapes could be used to exploit the most vulnerable children, as is the case with other age restricted products such as tobacco and alcohol
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| 5 |  **Restrictions on smoking and vaping at school** |
|  | * Smoking or vaping is NOT permitted in any part of the school premises, within the entrance area to the school or on land adjacent to the school building (car park, garden areas, walkway, etc.) where this forms part of the school premises. There are NO designated smoking areas provided within the school premises
* This policy applies to employees, pupils, parents, visitors, members of the public, contractors and others working or using the school’s premises or vehicles
* The enforcement of this policy will be the responsibility of all designated responsible persons within the school. The school’s disciplinary procedures will apply for dealing with both employees and pupils who breach the policy at work
* This policy will apply to all activities held in the school including before and after school sessions and any meetings organised which are attended by school employees as part of their work and/or visitors to such meeting/events.
* This policy will apply to all residential trips and the accommodation used. Pupil safety will be paramount, and support will be provided to those who are addicted to nicotine during the trip.
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| 6. | **Pupils smoking or vaping at school** |
|  | * Pupils will not be permitted to smoke or vape during the school day, either on the premises or outside neighbouring areas.
* Any pupils found in possession of cigarettes or smoking /vaping paraphernalia (such as lighters and electronic cigarettes) will have these confiscated
* The charging of any vape/electronic cigarette on school premises will not be permitted
* Non-compliance by pupils will be dealt with in agreement of the school’s disciplinary procedure
* Pupils will not be excluded from school for vaping or smoking, unless it is associated with other disruptive behaviour which justifies this
* Parents and carers will be informed if their child breaches this policy where there are no safeguarding concerns
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| 7. | **Help with smoking / vaping cessation** |
|  | * The school will support employees and pupils in school wishing to give up smoking by advertising and promoting the Smokefree North Somerset Service and links to other national and local sources of support. <https://www.betterhealthns.co.uk/stop-smoking/>
* Pupils may also speak with the schools designated School Nurse
* Where practicable, requests from pupils and employees to attend smoking / vaping cessation programmes during the school day will be supported.
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