

Our Lady and St. Kenelm School

No-Smoking Policy



**“Bringing out the best in everyone,
for the benefit of all, in the spirit of Christ.”**

In order to achieve this mission, children must be equipped with the knowledge and understanding that they need to ensure that they can make informed and healthy choices about the way they live.

Introduction

This policy identifies how Our Lady and St. Kenelm Primary School will create a smoke-free environment within the school premises and grounds for the benefit of pupils, staff, visitors, parents, carers and members of the public.

Since July 2007 it has been against the law to smoke in a public place. Smoking at Our Lady and St Kenelm School has been banned since 2003. This includes vapes.

As a health promoting school, we recognise that staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life and therefore a healthy working and learning environment is essential.

The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) requires that the school takes reasonable measures to protect the health and safety of employees and members of the public visiting the school premises.

Second hand smoke can cause misery to the workplace leading to increased costs to the school through sick pay, absenteeism, loss of productivity and potential litigation.

Children and young people are more susceptible than adults to the effects of second hand smoke. 17,000 children under the age of five are admitted to hospital every year in the UK due to second hand smoke illnesses including bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma and other respiratory problems.

Rationale

Our Lady and St. Kenelm Primary School recognises and fully accepts those responsibilities placed upon it by health and safety legislation to provide a working and learning environment where health and safety of the staff, pupils, parents, carers and members of the public is of the utmost importance.

The purpose of the policy is to protect and improve health, safety and wellbeing of all staff, pupils, parents, carers and members of the public who visit the Our Lady and St. Kenelm Primary School premises.

Aims and Objectives

We aim to:

- Place particular emphasis on raising awareness amongst pupils on the impact of smoking and second hand smoke, as part of the teaching in PSHE.
- Equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressures to smoke, either from their peer group, or from society.
- Provide a supportive environment for those wishing to stop smoking. Access to advice and support can be sought through the school health advisor.

Smoking at Function and Events

As part of this policy events and functions held within the school premises will be smoke-free, in accordance with the No Smoking law of 2007.

Implementation and Enforcement of the Policy

With effect from September 2006 complete prohibition on smoking in all parts of the school premises will be applied, no smoking signage shall be placed around the school grounds.

All job applicants will be made aware of the Non-smoking policy and a requirement to abide by it will be part of the person specification for new jobs.

Policy review

The policy will be reviewed every two years to ensure that it continues to meet the Health and Safety legislation and government policies. It is the role of the Head teacher and governors to ensure that the policy is implemented and maintained within the school premises.

Documentation to Support the Policy

Government White Paper "Choosing Health, Making Healthy Choices Easier" (2004) identifies key themes, the justification of banning smoking in public places and workplaces is to protect the welfare of others, especially children and young people.

RSHE National Curriculum states – "...schools should seek to use RSHE education to build, where appropriate, on: drug education."

Pupils should be taught...

- What is meant by a healthy lifestyle
- How to maintain physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing
- How to make informed choices about health and wellbeing and to recognise sources of help with this