



Smoke Free Policy

Responsibilities

The Blyth School regards itself as a health-promoting school. It recognises that its staff act as role-models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion.

Second hand smoking – breathing in other people’s smoke, has now been shown to cause lung cancer & heart disease in non smokers, as well as many other illnesses & minor conditions.

This school acknowledges that breathing in other people’s tobacco smoke is both a public health hazard and welfare issue. Therefore, we wish to move towards an agreed smoking policy.

Rationale:

- Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill-health in our society.
- Passive smoking - breathing other people's tobacco smoke - is also potentially fatal. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, as well as many other illnesses, in non-smokers.
- Smoking is a health and safety issue for all adults who use the school: staff and parents.
- Everyone has the right to breathe clean air, and non-smokers are in the majority.
- Schools have a major role to play in working towards non-smoking being seen as the norm in society.
- Children need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models within the school.

Objectives:

- To protect non smokers from the adverse health effects of environmental tobacco smoke in the workplace.
- To demonstrate the school’s commitment to promoting the health of pupils and staff.
- To provide information and advice for those who wish to stop smoking.

Restrictions on smoking;

Staff

All staff - teaching, peripatetic, support and non-teaching and pupils may not smoke while on school premises.

Pupils

The present rules for forbidding smoking while on school premises or while engaged in school related activities outside the school will remain unchanged.

Parents

Parents may not smoke while on school premises. Letters will be sent home to parents informing them of the policy.

Visitors

The smoking policy applies to all visitors to the school - for example, parents, suppliers, supply or temporary staff, and repair people. The following arrangements have been made for informing visitors of the policy's existence:

- Clearly worded signs will be sited to announce the policy.
- Staff members will inform visitors of the policy when necessary.

School related activities:

The prohibition of smoking will apply during related school activities undertaken outside school premises, e.g. Educational Visits.

School premises utilised outside normal working hours:

When school premises are used for purposes other than school related activities the school smoking policy will still remain in operation.

Procedures:

It is important that in this section the school gives a clear outline of the schools procedures in terms of sanctions when staff/pupils are found smoking on the school premises.

It may also be useful to add to this section, systems of support (eg smoking cessation – Fresh Start, school nurse) and additional help lines.

Implementing and monitoring:

- Members of staff will be given a copy of the Policy, which will become part of their contract of employment.
- Parents will be informed of the Policy.
- Members of staff shall inform school visitors of the Policy.
- Signs and notices shall be posted in prominent positions throughout the school premises.