

Wessington Primary School

Anti-Smoking Policy

Review Date: Autumn 2025
Next review date: Autumn 2026
Person in charge: Headteacher

Background

The Health Act 2006 set out clear parameters for smoking in public places and the Smoke-Free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006, together with the Smoke-Free (Signs) Regulations 2007 specify how the Act is applied to school premises and signage in schools among other establishments.

Since July 2007, smoking has been banned in all enclosed and 'substantially enclosed' public places and workplaces. Regulations require employers (including schools) to put up 'no smoking' signs in a prominent position at every entrance to smoke-free premises. Similarly, signs in vehicles such as school minibuses must be displayed.

Along with compliance to legislation, national education policy requires all schools to promote healthy living. Good health education is central to reducing the incidence of smoking.

Introduction

Legislation demands that the buildings of Wessington Primary School must provide a smoke-free environment and provide adequate signage to acknowledge this fact. Beyond the legal requirements, the governors also acknowledge that smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in our society. We also accept that passive smoking – breathing other people's tobacco smoke – is also potentially fatal. The governing body, leadership team and staff are united in wanting to provide a happy, supportive school, which promotes excellence, enabling all members to experience achievement and success within a caring and supportive environment. Thus, a key feature of that environment is the major role we play in working towards non-smoking being seen as the norm in society. As a school we want all adults within our community to act as role models for our young people and to promote a non-smoking ethos. This anti-smoking policy also applies to the use of electronic cigarettes. The use of electronic cigarettes is prohibited wherever smoking is prohibited.

Objectives and targets

We encourage the development of independent, creative thinkers and learners within our supportive and enabling ethos and a key factor to success is a healthy lifestyle. Therefore, we aim to:

- Encourage staff and students to live healthy lives.
- Ensure a healthy environment for all who visit our site.
- Enable staff and students to work in a clean air environment void of the smell of tobacco smoke.
- Provide students with positive non-smoking role models as the norm.

- Provide support, if requested, on giving up smoking, involving, as appropriate, outside agencies.

Action plan

The anti-smoking policy applies to all staff, students and visitors to our school, including parents, suppliers, supply or temporary staff and contractors. The scope of the policy

Students

Smoking will also be addressed in class as part of the school's PSHE programme. Students will be given access to information and advice in dealing with the dangers of both smoking and passive smoking. The PSHE sessions will also provide opportunities for students to express their views and opinions in a safe environment.

Staff

Staff members are recognised 'role models' and as such are required not to smoke in sight of students. This will include visits, school excursions, etc. and include both teaching and support staff. The policy will also apply to employees while exercising direct responsibility for students on off-site activities, for example, when supervising school fixtures. All recruitment material for every post at the school draws the attention of all applicants to the school's policy regarding smoking.

The headteacher is responsible for dealing with reported breaches of the policy by students, staff or visitors to the site and will, in the first instance, remind staff involved of the anti-smoking policy. However, repeated breaches of the policy will lead to the school's disciplinary procedures being invoked.

Visitors

Visitors are advised of our school anti-smoking policy in the following ways:

- Clearly worded signs strategically placed on site.
- Verbal notification by staff members when necessary.
- Letters sent home to parents.
- Persons or organisations making use of any part of the school site are made aware of this policy as part of our lettings agreement.

The headteacher will speak with any visitor who has breached the policy and remind them of the policy. Visitors will be asked to leave the premises if they refuse to co-operate.

We acknowledge that despite all our best efforts some staff and visitors may continue to smoke. We will continue to make provision for anyone requiring help or support or further information about giving up smoking and will co-operate with health-promoting external agencies to achieve our goals.

Monitoring and evaluation

A record of any breaches of this policy will be kept and the policy will be evaluated periodically at the discretion of the headteacher and governors in light of the findings of the record.

Signed _____ Chair of Governing Body

Signed _____ Headteacher

Date _____