



Meadowside CP & Nursery School



No Smoking Policy (including Electronic Cigarettes)

Policy written by	School
Policy Written Updated	May 2016 September 2020
Date reviewed and agreed by Governors	October 2020
Next Review	October 2022
Head teacher	Mr Stuart Wright 
Chair of governors	Mr Gareth Harris 

No Smoking Policy (including electronic cigarettes)

Introduction

This policy provides guidance for members of the school community on why Meadowside Community Primary and Nursery School is a smoke free school. It has been developed with the need to protect the whole school community so that everyone can learn in a smoke free environment. This policy applies to everyone using the premises (including all grounds and buildings) for any purpose, at any time.

Aim

To create a whole-school approach to tobacco/electronic cigarettes in order to prevent the uptake of, and reduce the prevalence of, smoking across the school community.

Objectives

The objectives of the policy are:

- To provide a smoke free school environment for everyone
- To provide children and young people with consistent information about tobacco through the curriculum
- To provide interventions that aim to prevent the uptake of smoking as part of PSHE and activities related to Healthy School status
- To involve the wider school community in interventions to prevent smoking uptake in children and young people, for example, by providing stop smoking groups for parents and carers or encouraging them to become involved in homework assignments
- To provide assistance for those who smoke and wish to stop.

Rationale Smoking is the main cause of preventable morbidity and premature death in England. In 2019, it is estimated that 489,300 hospital admissions attributable to smoking (2017/18), 77,800 deaths attributable to smoking (2017), 14.4% of adults classified as smokers (2018) and 10.6% of mothers were smokers at the time of delivery (2018/19).

The earlier children become regular smokers, the greater risk of developing life-threatening conditions, such as lung cancer or heart disease, if they continue smoking into adulthood. Those who start smoking before the age of 16 are twice as likely to continue to smoke as those who begin later in life – and are more likely to be heavier smokers (Muller 2007).

The process of becoming a regular smoker is not always constant – children and young people may stop and start the habit on a number of occasions before they come to identify themselves as someone who smokes (Goddard1990).

Smoke free school sites and non-smoking staff provide positive role models for children and young people and contribute to the development of a health promoting school.

Factors linked to smoking

Children and young people start to smoke and then continue for a number of reasons. These may be connected to their personal or social circumstances or to wider society. Personal factors include

- Age
- Gender
- Socio-economic status
- Educational attainment
- Mental health.

Social circumstances, such as being surrounded by peers and family members who smoke, can also affect whether or not young people will take up smoking. For example, smoking among young people is strongly associated with living with one or more people who smoke. Many young people see smoking as the norm because they mistakenly believe it is more prevalent than it really is. For this reason, supporting adult smokers to stop is also a key aspect in encouraging young people not to take up smoking.

School premises

Smoking, including E Cigarettes is not permitted at all on any part of the school's premises and grounds including:

- The entrance area to the school
- Land adjacent to the school building
- Car parks
- Garden areas
- Walkway
- Playgrounds
- Playing fields
- Kitchen Area
- By the school gates

This policy will apply equally to future premises at the construction stage of any new building and refurbishment or relocation project. There will be no designated smoking areas provided within the school buildings or grounds

This policy applies to:

- Students
- Employees
- Parents
- Visitors
- Members of the public
- Contractors or others working or using the school's premises.

The smoke free policy will apply to all activities held in the school, including; before and after school sessions and any meetings work and/or visitors to such meetings/events. Suitable posters, displays and statutory no smoking signage will be displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message which supports a smoke free working environment.

Vehicles

The smoking policy will apply to all schools owned/hired/leased vehicles, as well as private vehicles when used for carrying students or staff on school business.

Non-compliance

The school's disciplinary procedure as stated below will apply for dealing with staff and students who do not comply with the smoke free school status. Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to adhere to smoke free status.

Action:

- If a student is found smoking on school premises, including electronic cigarettes the school should refer to their Behaviour Policy.
- If a member of staff is found smoking including electronic cigarettes, they will be reminded of the school's No Smoking Policy. If this continues a formal meeting with the Head Teacher will be arranged.
- If a non-member of staff on the premises is found smoking including electronic cigarettes they will be reminded of the school's No Smoking Policy and be asked to stop. If they continue to smoke they will be asked to leave the premises.

Assistance for those who smoke, Local NHS Stop Smoking Services are available to staff, parents and students who would like to stop smoking (please note: this service should not be seen as a disciplinary action). Group and one-to-one support is available for staff and parents through the NHS specialist Stop Smoking Service or through their GP Practice and selected pharmacies.

Further information from <http://smokefree.nhs.uk/ways-to-quit/local-nhs-stop-smoking-service/> Smoking prevention activities Tobacco education forms part of the wider school curriculum where consistent messages are provided to pupils about tobacco in key stage 2 usually within PSHE.

Policies linked to:

- Health and safety policy
- Behaviour policy