



... the sky's OUR limit!

Ridgeway Primary School

Smoke Free School Policy

Introduction

As a school we believe it is our responsibility to promote a healthy life style and recognises that its staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion.

Smoking is scientifically proven to be detrimental to the health and well-being of any person who either smokes or inhales second hand smoke (passive smoking).

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

Ridgeway Primary School acknowledges that breathing in other people's tobacco smoke is both a public health hazard and a welfare issue. It is also noted that electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) mimic the effects of real cigarettes. Experts say it is not yet known what harm the tobacco-free devices could inflict and that their contents could be damaging young people's health.

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 a 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 and e-cigarette vapours 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

The school operates a no smoking policy for the whole of the school premises in line with SCC buildings. **This is strictly enforced and no exceptions are made.**

At Ridgeway Primary School we give a clear message that everyone is entitled to a 'smoke-free' environment, provide smoke-free role models, and demonstrate the school's commitment to promoting healthy life styles.

Staff

All staff – teaching, support and peripatetic, may not smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes while on school premises and grounds.

Pupils

Pupils may not smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes while on school premises and grounds or while engaged in school related activities outside the school.

Parents

Parents may not smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes while on school premises and grounds. Parents will be informed of this restriction during the pupil induction process, in intermittent reminders on the newsletter and by being signposted to this policy on the school website.

Visitors

The smoking policy applies to all visitors to the school, for example parents, suppliers, supply or temporary staff, contractors, sports coaches etc. 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 tobacco or e-cigarettes 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.

Service Users who have a letting agreement with the school have a responsibility to ensure that any person accessing the site during the letting period adhere to the 'No Smoking Policy'

All visitors to the school are required to sign in. Information in the main entrance informs visitors that the school has a 'No Smoking policy'.

Procedures

If staff are found smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes on school premises, grounds or school related activities this will be deemed to be committing an act of gross misconduct and will be subject to disciplinary action.

If parents or visitors are found smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes on school premises or grounds, they will be required to leave the premises or grounds immediately and may not be permitted to return. Parents assisting on school activities and educational visits are subject to the same no smoking policy as staff.

The Arrangements for Applying the Policy

Keeping Workplaces 'Smoke free'

It will be the responsibility of Premises Manager to prevent people from smoking in them. The responsible person should:-

- Have all the required no-smoking signs in place; and
- Make sure that employees, service users, customers and visitors are aware that the premises are legally required to be smoke free.

If someone smokes in a smoke free place the responsible person should:-

- Draw the person's attention to the no-smoking signs and ask them to stop smoking or go off school premises;
- Point out that they are committing a criminal offence by smoking in a smoke free premises and could be subject to criminal proceedings;
- Remind the person that under the law you have responsibilities to prevent smoking and that you both could receive a fine; and/or
- Advise an employee who breaks the law that disciplinary action may be taken.

Failure to comply with the policy will be viewed very seriously.

Updated January 2017

Jo Jelves

Document History

May 2013	Presented to the Sites and Buildings Committee 11 th June 2013 for adoption
January 2017	Renamed and updated to include the schools position on the use of E-Cigarettes on school premises. Presented to the Resources Committee 30 th January 2017 for re-adoption