

SMOKEFREE POLICY

PROVIDING A SMOKEFREE ENVIRONMENT (PROCEDURE)

This policy applies to students, staff, parents/carers, members of the public, contractors or others working/using the school premises and all vehicles used to transport students.

Smoking is not permitted in any part of the school's premises and grounds including:

- The entrance areas to the school (the school gates).
- On land adjacent to the school building (e.g., car parks, garden areas, walkways, playgrounds, playing fields etc.).
- On the school road crossing patrol areas.

This policy will apply equally to future premises at the construction stage of any new building and refurbishment or relocation project.

Staff and visitors who smoke will need to do so outside of the school premises. There are no designated smoking areas provided within the school buildings or grounds.

Staff should also remove any badges/uniform that makes them identifiable to the school when they smoke.

The policy applies to all events and activities held in the school including before and after school sessions, any meetings organised which are attended by school employees as part of their work and visitors to such meetings/events.

Suitable posters, displays and signage will be displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message which supports a Smokefree environment.

Smoking is not permitted in any school owned/hired/leased vehicles, as well as private vehicles when used for carrying students or staff on school business. Schools also have a duty to reinforce the smoking legislation on buses used for pupil transport.

This policy applies when students are taken off site on school excursions, visits and trips.

Staff and accompanying helpers will be reminded that smoking is not permitted when on duty or looking after students.

SMOKING PREVENTION ACTIVITIES (PROCEDURE)

Employees are not permitted to smoke in the view of students. Employees who do smoke will be asked to ensure they cannot be seen smoking by students (even if it is off the school grounds).

The school supports tobacco education; parents/carers are encouraged and supported to be actively involved in their child's tobacco education through home/school activities etc.

www.rotherham.gov.uk/smokefree

E-CIGARETTES (VAPING)

Vaping can be an effective harm reduction measure for smokers who cannot or do not want to stop using nicotine. The latest evidence published by Public Health England (PHE, 2018) estimate that vaping is around 95% safer for users than smoking.

Having said this, we are including e-cigarettes (vaping) within our voluntary ban. The reason for this is that the purpose of the smokefree areas is to make smoking invisible to children and some young children cannot tell the difference between smoking and vaping.

PHE, advise all smokers to stop completely and immediately, to access support via the Get Healthy Rotherham Service, to utilise a combination of behavioural support and stop smoking medication. Smokers are four times more likely to be successful in quitting if they access this type of support.

THE LAW

Although our smoking ban around the school gates is voluntary, smoking is banned by law in all indoor public places including schools.

This ban has been in place since 1 July 2007 and research suggests this ban has encouraged existing smokers to give up and has also raised awareness about the risks of second-hand smoke, resulting in fewer young people taking up smoking.

From 1 February 2011, smoking is banned in cars that carry children under 18 with a possible £50 fixed penalty notice for both the smoker and the driver. This is to protect children from second hand smoke.

For more information visit: www.gov.uk/government/news/smoking-in-vehicles

RESPONDING TO SMOKING RELATED INCIDENTS

The following procedures will apply when there is non-compliance with the smokefree policy:

Staff: The Schools Disciplinary Procedure will be followed for members of staff who do not comply with the school's Smokefree policy. The staff member will be offered support to help them to quit smoking.

Non-staff members and school visitors: Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to adhere to the policy. Smokers will be provided with the following details on where to seek support in quitting:

Get Healthy Rotherham is a specialist support service (for adults over 18) which can help staff, parents/carers and visitors make changes for a healthier lifestyle, including quitting smoking.

A range of support is available via telephone, face-to-face sessions and an online quit program.

Rotherham Residents can:

- follow the link here <https://www.gethealthyrotherham.co.uk/Service/29/stop-smoking>
- self-refer by calling 01709 718720 or registering on this link.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The policy will be reviewed and developed in consultation with the whole school community. It will be widely publicised (parents/carers, staff induction, staff appointment contracts, handbook, website, notice boards, prospectus) and will be included in contracts for those hiring the use of the school premises.

The policy will be monitored by the Head Teacher to ensure compliance and its successful implementation.

The policy will be reviewed every few years and ratified by the Governing Body.