



Smoke Free School Policy

Smoke Free School Policy

Policy Review Date: May 2022

Reviewed By: A Evans & SLT

Next Review: May 2023 (or following incident, legislation or interim guidance)

Updates and Amendments to Policy

Date	Section Heading	Update Details	Page N°
Apr 2018		Reviewed	
Apr 2019		Reviewed	
Feb 2021	Section 2 Responsibilities	Updated school responsibilities – highlighted	4
	Section 2 Aim	Updated aims of the policy – highlighted	4
	Section 6 Curriculum	New section added – highlighted	6
	Section 7 Procedures for Failure to Adhere to Policy	Section re-numbered	6
	Section 8 Support Available	Section re-numbered	6
	Section 9 Reviewer and Governing Body Sign-Off	Section re-numbered	6
May 2022		Reviewed	

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Section 1

Policy Statement

This policy has been developed from the guidance publication UK School Smoking Policy and is denoted as good practice.

Section 2

Responsibilities

Avalon School regards itself as a health promoting school. Avalon School recognises that its staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion. **As a school we believe it is our responsibility to promote a smoke free policy and to give everyone the right to breathe clean air and to avoid the dangers of second-hand smoke.**

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.

Avalon 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. **There is considerable evidence regarding the impact of smoking behaviour on children.**

All staff will be informed of this policy, which will become part of their contract of employment. Parents will be informed of this policy and it will be posted on the school website. Notices and signs will be posted in relevant places throughout the school premises.

Avalon School aim to provide a safe working and learning environment for both children, staff, parents and visitors, as such the school supports a smoke free policy which reinforces the messages with the PSHCEE curriculum and health initiatives in the wider community.

Section 3

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, parents and visitors.
- Everyone has a right to breathe clean air, and non-smokers are in the majority.
- Schools have a major role to play working towards non-smoking being seen as the norm in society.
- Children need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models.

Section 4

Aims

The aims of this policy are:

- **To provide a smoke free environment both within the school building and grounds that protects the health of the whole school community and visitors to the school.**

- To promote a healthy lifestyle and enable children to make responsible healthy choices in relation to smoking and this is reflected within the school curriculum.
- To equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressure to smoke, either from peer groups or from society in general.
- To protect non-smokers from the adverse health effect of environmental tobacco smoke and e-cigarette vapours in the workplace.
- To demonstrate Avalon School's commitment to promoting the health of pupils and staff.
- To provide information and advice for those who wish to stop smoking.
- To comply with Health & Safety Legislation and Employment Law.

Section 5 Smoking Restrictions

5.1 Staff

All staff including peripatetic, extra-curricular club leaders and sports coaches may not smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes while on school premises and grounds.

5.2 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.

5.3 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.

5.4 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 notice available to all visitors on signing in located in the school office.

Staff members will inform visitors of the policy when necessary.

5.5 School Related Activities

The prohibition of smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes will apply during related school activities undertaken outside school premises, eg educational visits.

5.6 School Premises Used Outside of Normal Operating Hours

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

Section 6

Curriculum

The dangers of smoking are addressed in the PSCHEE curriculum. As well as teaching children about the effects that smoking has on the body, as a school we will engage the children in discussions about the reasons why people start to smoke and what they themselves should do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes.

Teachers will lead all such discussions in a sensitive manner. Encouraging the children to explore the views of others and to reflect on their own personal thoughts regarding smoking. Children will be informed that it is illegal for cigarettes (including e-cigarettes) to people under the age of 16. Avalon School's aim is for children to refrain from smoking not only for this reason but also because they believe that smoking is a wrong lifestyle choice.

Section 7

Procedure for Failure to Adhere to Policy

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.

Section 8

Support Available

Staff, parents and visitors wishing to stop smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes can seek support and advice from:

- NHS Stop Smoking Services (<http://www.nhs.uk/smokefree>)
- NHS Quit Squad - Central Lancashire NHS Stop Smoking Service Telephone: 0800 328 6297 or 01772 644474
- GP Surgeries

Section 9

Reviewer and Governing Body Sign-Off

This policy will be given to all staff members who must read.

J Callaway, Headteacher

C Kidd, Chair of Governors