

# Swallownest Primary School

## Smoke Free Policy Policy



# *Smoke Free Policy*

Smoking is not permitted in any part of the school premises or grounds, at any time, or by any person, regardless of their status or business within the school.

*For the purposes of this policy the term 'smoking' refers to the action of putting a cigarette, cigar, pipe or cigarette like item etc to the mouth, whether the item contains tobacco or not (including the use of electronic cigarettes).*

## **Monitoring and reviewing**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it continues to meet the aims below.

The School's Smoke Free Policy Co-ordinator is **Mrs E Peake**.

Comments related to the enforcement of this policy should be directed to the Smoke Free Policy Co-ordinator

This policy was adopted by the Governing Body. It is owned, implemented and understood by the whole school community.

## **Introduction**

One of our school aims is to ensure that all our children are healthy, happy and achieve to their maximum potential. This includes encouraging a healthy lifestyle and an awareness of the impact of smoking.

Children become aware of cigarettes at an early age; three out of four children are aware of cigarettes before they reach the age of five. Those who experiment with cigarettes can quickly become addicted to the nicotine in tobacco. They may show signs of addiction within four weeks of starting, even if they don't smoke every day.

Studies have shown that smoking just one cigarette in early childhood doubles the chance of a teenager becoming a regular smoker by the age of 17.

This school invests valuable resources in teaching pupils about the hazards of smoking through the curriculum. Pupils need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models in the adults who teach them, as well as a smoke free environment to protect them and the whole school community from the serious health risks of secondhand smoking.

## **Aims of the Policy**

This policy seeks to:

- Guarantee a healthy working and learning environment and protect the current and future health of all members of the school community by eliminating the serious health risks associated with secondhand smoking

- Guarantee the right of non-smokers to breathe in air free from tobacco smoke
- Create a consistent learning environment by matching the ethos and behaviour within the school to the curriculum
- Change attitudes by promoting non-smoking as the norm and non-smokers as positive role models
- Comply with Health & Safety Legislation and Employment Law (Appendix 2)
- Raise awareness of the dangers of both smoking and secondhand smoking
- Take account of the needs of those who smoke and to support those who wish to stop

### **Restrictions on smoking**

Smoking is not permitted on any part of the school premises or grounds at any time or by any person regardless of their status or business in the school.

During school visits smoking is not permitted by any pupil; staff/adults accompanying the pupils should not smoke in view of the pupils and should be discreet about needing/going for a cigarette.

### **Visitors**

All visitors, contractors and deliverers are required to abide by the smoking policy. Staff members are expected to inform visitors of the school's no smoking policy, however they are not expected to enter into any confrontation that may put their personal safety at risk. No smoking signs displayed at the entrance to school should raise awareness that the school is a smoke free site.

### **Support for smokers**

Any smoker requiring help and support in giving up smoking is encouraged to seek the assistance of the school nurse or the local stop smoking service:

Rotherham (NHS) Stop Smoking Service (01709 422444) or  
0800 6120011 free from a landline or  
0330 6601166 free from a mobile

- The school nurse may be contacted for support with smoking cessation work.

### **Sanctions**

- Pupils who are discovered smoking will be dealt with by the member of staff who has discovered them. Possible sanctions are seen in Appendix 1.
- The Headteacher should be notified about the incident regarding any pupil caught smoking and will therefore ensure the appropriate support/sanctions are in place.
- Staff and other adults who are discovered smoking will be referred to the Head teacher or member of the Senior Leadership Team.

## **Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually, unless circumstances dictate otherwise e.g. new DfES guidance is brought out so the policy will need updating in light of it to reflect good practice.

## **Appendix 1:**

### **Sanctions/Responses**

Pupils will be consulted regarding their opinions of appropriate sanctions as this will raise awareness of the policy and consequences if caught smoking.

For further guidance see: *'Drugs: Guidance for schools'*, Section 5 responding to incidents.'

'Any response should balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider school community, and aim to provide pupils with the opportunity to learn from their mistakes and develop as individuals'

Possible responses could include:

- additional work (perhaps related to negative effects of smoking or to generally raise awareness of the negative effect of smoking)
- detention after school
- referral to a smoking cessation worker **if the person wants to give up** and is addicted to nicotine
- missing break/play time or a treat
- informing parents/carers of the incident e.g. letter home/telephone call
- asking parents/carers to come in to school

## **Appendix 2:**

### **Summary of Smoke Free legislation**

From summer 2007 the law in England states that virtually all workplaces, including company vehicles should be smoke free environments.

#### **What workplaces are covered?**

The legislation covers 'all premises, which are wholly or substantially enclosed, and used as a place of work by more than one person, including vehicles. Smoking rooms will no longer be allowed'.

Schools are likely to extend their Smoke Free Policy to include the school grounds and visits out of school.

Essentially the legislation ensures that almost all workers, regardless of their place of work, will be protected from the risks to health of exposure to tobacco smoke and guaranteed the right to smoke-free air.

### **What does the smoke-free legislation mean in practice?**

Owners/managers must ensure their premises are smoke free. Required actions include putting up ‘no smoking’ signs which meet the following minimum standards:

- displayed at each public entrance to the premises
- in a position that is prominently visible to persons entering the premises
- are A5 (148mm by 210mm) in size
- Include the international red “no smoking” symbol and the words: “No smoking. It is against the law to smoke in these premises.”

### **What are the penalties for non compliance?**

Enforcement authorities e.g. environmental health officers will be authorised to issue the following penalties:

- Failure to display minimum no smoking signs: up to £1000 or a fixed penalty notice of £200
- Smoking in a no-smoking place: up to £200 or a penalty notice of £50
- Failing to prevent smoking in a smoke-free place: up to £2500

### **What help is there for those who want to stop smoking?**

Rotherham NHS Stop Smoking service is offering support to all who would like to give up smoking.  
Telephone Rotherham NHS Stop Smoking Service  
01709 422444

For further enquiries contact:  
Smoking Cessation Service Manager  
Rotherham Community Health Centre  
Greasbrough Road  
Rotherham  
S60 1RY  
Tel: 01709 423249

E-mail: [Simon.lister@rotherham.nhs.uk](mailto:Simon.lister@rotherham.nhs.uk)



## Illicit and counterfeit tobacco products and under-age sales

**01709 254955**

**Do you know where people are selling illicit cigarettes or tobacco?**

**Do you know shops who sell cigarettes and tobacco to people under 18 years?**

Trading Standards Services are warning the public about buying counterfeit cigarettes, tobacco and cigars. Selling counterfeit cigarettes, tobacco and cigars is against the law.

Counterfeit cigarettes increase the availability of tobacco, encouraging smokers to maintain their habit and children and young people to start. Although they look genuine, counterfeit cigarettes are made from inferior materials and can therefore be sold cheaply. Tests on counterfeit hauls have revealed the cigarettes contained up to 60% more tar, 80% more nicotine and 133% more carbon monoxide than legitimate products.

### **Suddenly that 'bargain' doesn't seem as desirable!**

Trading Standards Officers across South Yorkshire are increasingly encountering counterfeit and illicit tobacco products in the region. Recent investigations have involved retail premises, street sellers and in some cases, residential properties, with officers netting thousands of illegal items. Seizures have included 40 kilograms of fake rolling tobacco, and hundreds of packs of illegal cigarettes.

**To report the sale of illicit / counterfeit cigarettes or tobacco products in Rotherham, contact your local Trading Standards Service on 01709 254955.**

**This can be done anonymously.**

