



Smoking Policy

Throughout this policy smoking includes the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes and e-cigarettes, personal vaporizers and electronic nicotine delivery systems.

Principles

The principles underlying the QES Smoking Policy comprise:

- 1 A belief in the creation of culture that emphasises the advantages of a smoke-free environment.
- 2 A belief that all those connected to the School – Parents / Teachers / Support Staff / Governors / Students and Visitors have a role to play in educating children as to the dangers of smoking.
- 3 A belief that issues surrounding smoking should be dealt with in the Curriculum as desirable elements in a coherent Health Education programme.
- 4 A belief in the need for a sensitive understanding and realistic attitude to issues connected to smoking.
- 5 A wish to implement effectively current and impending legislation.
- 6 An acceptance of the basic tenets of the Cumbria County Council Smoking Policy.
- 7 A belief that policy is only effective when enshrined in everyday practice and implemented in a partnership between home and school.

Aims

- 1 To maintain the school as a smoke-free environment.
- 2 To ensure that all pupils are aware of the dangers of smoking and have opportunity to discuss and explore attendant issues.
- 3 To implement effective sanctions against illicit pupil smokers but to support punishments with advice and professional counselling.
- 4 To continue to implement a coherent Health Education programme as a cross-curricular element in the curriculum, as discreet elements in PD and General Studies programmes and as stand-alone presentations.

Smoking

1 General Public

No member of the public or anyone visiting the school for any reason is allowed to smoke on the school site or around entrances/exits.

2 Staff

- a) The School is a no-smoking area for staff.
- b) Members of staff should not smoke in front of pupils.

3 Pupils

- a) Pupils are not allowed to smoke on journeys to and from school, on the school site or during activities that take place off site.
- b) Any pupil found smoking is to be taken home immediately by a parent. If a parent cannot be contacted, the pupil will work in isolation for the rest of the school day and a letter sent home informing the parent(s) of the transgression.



- c) Any pupil found congregating with pupils who are smoking will be put in School detention and a letter sent home informing parents of a concern.
- d) Any pupils bringing cigarettes, matches or lighters into School will be placed in detention and their parent(s) informed of the reason.
- e) Any pupil suspected of smoking will be invited to discuss the matter with a member of staff who will then decide whether to inform parent(s) of a concern.
- f) Counselling will be offered to all those involved in smoking.

Health Education and Smoking

1 The Curriculum

The following elements and issues are covered as part of a coherent programme within the curriculum as indicated.

Tobacco and related issues

- 1 Facts about tobacco
- 2 Effects of tobacco on the body system/passive smoking
- 3 Legislation regarding tobacco
- 4 Misconceptions and stereotypes.
- 5 Influence of peer pressure
- 6 Influence of social pressure
- 7 Influence of media
- 8 Developing coping skills to deal with pressure
- 9 Alternatives to smoking: relaxation, interests, awareness of need to develop self-esteem
- 10 Smoke-free issues
- 11 Developing personal decision-making skills about tobacco use
- 12 Awareness of support systems

2 Management of the Health Education Curriculum

Leadership Team working with the Year Heads and relevant Heads of Department will continue to look closely at issues, develop curricular elements, map out a coherent spiralling programme and evaluate annually the effectiveness of the Smoking Policy.

3 Whole-school awareness

- a) Assemblies and Tutor time will be used to allow pupils and staff to present information, perceptions, attitudes and to raise awareness of issues.
- b) Opportunities to invoke and support anti-smoking campaigns will be taken as appropriate.
- c) Opportunities will be taken to suspend the curriculum to allow stand-alone sessions by visiting speakers to take place.

4 Parents

It is hoped that parents will recognise their ultimate responsibility for the Health Education of their children and will do their utmost to support the policies of the school by their example, advice, discussions and explanations as well as by their acceptance of sanctions.