



Smoke Free Policy

This Policy was approved and adopted by

The Sandhill Trust Board on 2nd December 2015

Review Date: December 2017

Signed:

Chair

Introduction

The Sandhill Trust takes seriously our duty to promote children and young people's wellbeing and their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We see our commitment to creating a smoke free environment and developing pupils' knowledge, attitudes and skills in decision making around smoking as part of our work on keeping children and young people safe around drugs and managing risk.

Definition

A drug is any substance which affects how a person thinks, feels or behaves (World Health Organisation). The term includes medicinal, non-medicinal, legal and illegal drugs. Therefore drug refers to nicotine as well as alcohol, volatile substances, medicines, illegal drugs and psychoactive substances (legal highs).

Aim

To ensure a whole-school approach to tobacco in order to protect all members of the school community from the harms of second-hand smoke and to prevent the uptake of, and reduce the prevalence of smoking across the school community.

Objectives

- To provide a smoke free school environment for the whole school community.
- To ensure that tobacco education is part of the school's progressive entitlement curriculum of drug education / PSHE (including the health effects, legal, economic and social aspects of tobacco use).
- To ensure that all staff promote positive attitudes and behaviour in relation to tobacco.
- To ensure that staff have the knowledge and understanding of policies, procedures and agreed practice to support the implementation of the Smoke Free Policy.
- To involve all staff, directors, pupils, parents/carers and members of the wider school community including outside agencies as appropriate, in the development of policy and practice in relation to tobacco.
- To adopt and support interventions that aim to prevent the uptake of smoking amongst pupils, staff, parents/carers and members of the wider school community.
- To provide assistance for pupils, staff and other members of the school community who smoke and wish to stop.
- To ensure that the school's Smoke Free Policy is applied when children / young people are taken off site.

Rationale

All members of the school community have the right to work and learn in a smoke free environment.

Exposure to second hand smoke (passive smoking) increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other illnesses. Exposure to role models who smoke also normalises smoking behaviour, which can have a significant negative impact on the delivery of the smoke free message.

The Sandhill Trust believes, *Smokefree school sites and non-smoking staff provide positive role models for children and young people and contribute to the development of a health-promoting school.*

The term smoking as used in this policy includes the use of e-cigarettes (electronic cigarettes) due to the following reasons:

- E-cigarettes are not yet regulated and we are still unsure about the safety of the product. They are not due for medical regulation until 2016.
- E-cigarettes look like normal cigarettes. There are potential regulatory issues around enforcing cigarette bans.
- There are evidence based Nicotine Replacement Therapy products available on prescription if your staff member is trying to quit smoking or having difficulty with nicotine cravings during work hours.
- Young people may be influenced by adults smoking e-cigarettes; for example if youth workers or librarians start using e-cigarettes during their paid work time. We are hearing anecdotal evidence of young people purchasing e-cigarettes on-line and selling them onto other pupils at school.

As with cigarettes, all kinds of e-cigarette (electronic cigarettes) are banded from the premises of the Sandhill Trust.

Providing a smoke free environment (Procedure)

- This Policy applies to pupils, staff, parents/carers, members of the public, contractors or others working / using the School premises or vehicles and all vehicles used to transport pupils.
- Smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, is not permitted in any part of the school's premises and grounds including the entrance area to the school, on land adjacent to the School building (e.g. car parks, garden areas, walkways, playgrounds, playing fields etc.) or 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.
- There are no designated smoking areas provided within the school buildings or grounds.
- The Smoke Free Policy applies to all events / 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/or visitors to such meetings/events.

- Statutory no smoking signage will be displayed on the 3 entrances to the school premises.
- Smoking, including e-cigarettes, is not permitted in any school owned/hired/leased vehicles, as well as private vehicles when used for carrying pupils or staff on school business. **Please note: this is a statutory requirement.** Schools also have a duty to reinforce the smoking legislation on buses used for pupil transport.
- This Policy applies when pupils are taken off site on school excursions/ visits/trips. Staff and accompanying helpers will be reminded that smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, is not permitted when on duty / looking after pupils.

Responding to smoking related incidents

Pupils

Any tobacco, e-cigarettes or any related paraphernalia found in a pupil's possession will be confiscated. If it is suspected that a pupil is in possession of tobacco, e-cigarettes or any related paraphernalia staff will use the right to search pupils and confiscate the items.

Parents will be informed and given opportunity to collect the tobacco, e-cigarettes or any related paraphernalia unless this would jeopardise the safety of the child.

An action plan of support will be written if necessary and monitored by the Safeguarding Lead. School nurse or other health professional may be consulted if necessary. Additional to this please see the procedures outlined in the trust Drug Policy and Behaviour Policy

If a child is deemed to be at risk of significant harm, social services will be contacted immediately and a decision taken whether or not to involve the police.

Responding to smoking related incidents

Staff

The Schools Disciplinary Procedure will be followed for members of staff who do not comply with the School's Smoke Free Policy.

The staff member will be offered support to help them quit smoking through linking them with appropriate support in the community.

Non staff members/school visitors

Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the Policy to adhere to the Policy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

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

The Policy will be monitored by the Executive Head Teacher, Directors and Heads of School to ensure compliance and its successful implementation.

Reviewed by the Trust:

Signed:

Chair

Review Date: November 2017