

Bishop Rawstorne Church of England Academy



SMOKE-FREE POLICY

I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness.

John 10:10

Aspire Believe Achieve

This policy document and the content contained therein remains the responsibility of the Headteacher, and Governing Body of the Academy. No amendments can be made without their express instruction and they remain the final arbiters in any matters relating to it.

Review date: September 2018

Next review date: September 2019

Reviewed by: Mr Rawlinson

Approved by Deputy Headteacher – September 2018

Bishop Rawstone Church of England Academy recognises the right of all staff and students to work in a smoke free environment and has operated a policy of no smoking within its buildings for many years. The school is committed to promoting health and welfare, and, as a good employer, wishes to create a high quality, healthy, and safe working environment for staff, students and visitors. It must, therefore, ensure that everyone is protected from the dangers of smoke in work and rest areas.

With effect from 1st July 2007 new legislation in relation to the Smoke Free Premises Act came into force and smoking became illegal in certain wholly or substantially enclosed public places. It became an offence to smoke in no smoking premises or to knowingly permit smoking in no smoking premises. Vehicles used for business purposes were also covered by the law. Owners of premises and individuals will have to pay substantial statutory fines if this legislation is breached. The school is responsible for monitoring adherence to this policy, and has prime responsibility for ensuring compliance with the law.

The school has revised its policy to protect all members of the school community from the harmful effects of passive smoke and ensure that everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities in relation to the legislation.

The policy applies to all teachers, support staff, students, visitors and contractors. Furthermore, all members of the school workforce share responsibility for the policy, and its policing is not the specific responsibility of any particular group.

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

Smoke Free Areas

The school is committed to making its buildings and grounds completely smoking free for the protection of all of its staff and students. Smoking is not permitted in any school building or within 5 metres of the entrances to premises and open windows. This ensures that smoke does not enter a building from outside and that people entering or exiting premises are not exposed to second-hand smoke.

Smoking is also prohibited in the following external locations which are covered by existing statutory provisions:

- adjacent to paint, chemical or solvent stores, by the Science block
- in the immediate vicinity of waste areas
- any other areas where there is an identified flammable hazard or risk of ill health.

The legislation covers all substances that a person can smoke. These include manufactured cigarettes, hand-rolled cigarettes, pipes, cigars, herbal cigarettes and water pipes (including shisha, hookah and hubble-bubble pipes). This policy all also prohibits the use of any type of electronic cigarette in areas where smoking is banned.

Signage

The principles outlined in this policy also continue to apply whether or not 'no smoking' signs are displayed.

Procedures

Members of the Senior Leadership Team are responsible for ensuring that staff, students, visitors and, where applicable, contractors are made aware of this policy and that they comply with its requirements.

Compliance with the legislation and the school's policy must be managed on a local basis. Those responsible for designated areas and groups are required to co-operate in implementing the policy in the area for which they have responsibility.

Staff who wish to smoke during the working day may do so only during designated breaks, i.e. an official agreed rest period, such as the lunch break.

Procedures

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.

A refusal to stop is unacceptable and should be reported to the Senior Leadership Team. It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to take action for breaches of this policy in this area of responsibility.

Contractors or visitors breaching the code should be requested to cease smoking on the premises. A contractor or visitor who refuses to stop smoking should be required to leave the premises.

Counterfeit Tobacco Products

The selling/storing and dealing in any way of illegal cigarettes and tobacco on the school's premises will not be tolerated.