



## Educational Diversity

# Smokefree Policy

Approved by:	Headteacher	Date: September 2019
Last reviewed on:	January 2023	
Next review due by:	January 2026	

'With **confidence** we learn, through **challenge** we grow, with **commitment** we achieve,  
together we take **control** and realise our dreams



## **Statement of Policy**

One of Blackpool Council's priorities is to create healthy communities by improving health and wellbeing. To help achieve this priority the Council has approved the principle of being smokefree in relation to the delivery of its services, in order to reduce the harm to health caused by tobacco. The Management Committee of Educational Diversity shares the same belief and has decided to adopt the policy set out below:

The policy applies to all employees of the school and others who work within the school grounds including casual workers, agency workers and volunteers. The policy applies to pupils, parents, visitors and contractors.

### **Commitments:**

- The Management Committee of Educational Diversity recognises that all school employees, casual workers, governors, agency workers and volunteers have an important responsibility in the example they set to pupils and their families and should be committed to enforcing this principle.
- All school premises, including school buildings, grounds, carparks and outside the schools gates have been designated smokefree, with no exceptions. Smoking is also banned in any school vehicles used for transporting pupils, employees, parents and visitors in line with smokefree (Exemptions and Vehicles) Regulations 2007.
- The school aims to provide a smokefree environment to ensure that the health and safety of employees, casual workers, agency workers, volunteers, pupils, parents, visitors and contractors is not at risk due to the exposure to smoking, secondhand smoke or any risk of fire.
- School employees, workers and contractors must not smoke on or off school premises during working hours, take breaks during working hours for the purpose of smoking or absent themselves from their place of work during work time for the purpose of smoking.
- School employees, workers and contractors must not be identified as having smoked, for example smelling of smoke on clothing, breath etc. on arrival at and during working hours, as they have a responsibility in the example they set to pupils.
- School employees and workers must not smoke in a public area while wearing a school identification badge, whether on or off duty.
- Smoking is not permitted when driving whilst on duty or travelling to and from meetings for school business.
- All employees and workers must be responsible for the promotion and maintenance of a smokefree working environment.
- All employees and workers must actively promote the policy in the course of their work. Managers must not condone employees taking breaks in order to smoke.
- Smoking is not allowed by employees or others on land owned or controlled by Blackpool Council or the School e.g., car parks, playing fields, playgrounds. This applies whilst on duty and off duty ( for example the policy applies to someone smoking in their car on a school or council controlled car park at breaks or lunchtimes)
- This Smokefree Policy will be brought to the attention of partnership organisations, businesses providing services and other stakeholders who may interact with the School's employees and students. Their co-operation in implementing both the spirit and letter of the policy will be requested and accepted as part of the partnership or working arrangements
- Any special arrangements in place with regard to employees or private individuals living in School or council owned or controlled residential establishments must comply with the

legislation and guidance from the appropriate regulatory bodies. These arrangements must be updated in accordance with any changes to legislation or guidance.

- All School and council owned or controlled buildings and vehicles must display the appropriate smokefree signage

### **Implementation**

- The Management Committee should ensure that appropriate arrangements exist for implementing the policy within their School and /or areas of responsibility.
- The school must ensure that all school staff, workers and governors have received the appropriate training to enable them to challenge anyone who fails to comply with the smokefree policy. It is the responsibility of every member of staff to challenge anyone who is not adhering to the policy.
- Enforcement of the School's policy is by management action and disciplinary procedures.

### **E-cigarettes**

The use of nicotine by children and young people is unsafe, it can cause addiction and can harm the developing adolescent brain - there are no benefits to children and young people in using e-cigarettes. There is concern that e-cigarettes are seen as 'safe' but this is not the case, while the health risks of e-cigarettes are significantly lower than cigarettes they are not without risk. **In view of this, the smokefree policy applies to both tobacco cigarettes and e-cigarettes.**

E-cigarettes should feature alongside other health-harming substances e.g. tobacco and alcohol, in all health education for children and young people, and be presented as harmful to health.

The sale of e-cigarettes are banned to young people under the age of 18. It is also an offence for anyone over 18 to buy e-cigarettes on behalf of a young person (known as 'proxy purchasing'), with a penalty fine of £90.

For smokers who want to quit, Nicotine Replacement Therapy (such as patches or gum), along with behavioural support from a healthcare professional, is known to be the most effective form of support. It is not yet clear whether e-cigarettes are effective at helping smokers quit, however for smokers who are unwilling or unable to quit there is a high degree of consensus that the benefits of switching completely from smoking tobacco to e-cigarettes are likely to outweigh the harms.

### **Information**

Quitting cigarettes and e-cigarettes completely and being addiction-free is the best way to protect health. With support from a local specialist stop smoking service, tobacco and nicotine users are **four times more likely** to quit than going it alone. The specialist stop smoking service can help with one-to-one support and access to licensed medicines that can be used to help to beat the cravings. The specialist stop smoking service is open to all ages and licensed medications are available, through the service, to young people aged 12 years and above.

Free help and information is available on the NHS choices website and from local services and as follows:

- For help to quit smoking and e-cigarettes contact your local service:
  - Smokefreelife Blackpool on 01253 462463 or [www.smokefreelifeblackpool.co.uk](http://www.smokefreelifeblackpool.co.uk)
  - The NHS Smokefree National Helpline: 0300 123 1044
  - GP Surgeries

### **Monitoring of the Policy**

The operation of the policy will be monitored and reviewed as required.

### **Review Period**

This policy will be reviewed in Jan 2026 or sooner if changes in legislation or guidance dictates.