



**SMOKING
AND
ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES
POLICY**

Ramsden Hall Academy

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| Last review date | March 2024 | Review period | 2 yearly |
| Next review date | March 2026 | Owner | Antony Clements |

Aim

The health risks from smoking are well documented and therefore our academy will create a smoke-free atmosphere for all our pupils and staff. Increasing evidence about the risks associated with passive smoking, culminating in the Government introducing a ban on smoking in public places. This academy has a clear responsibility to promote the health of the children and young people in our care and we also ask our staff to promote the benefits of non-smoking. This policy also covers e-cigarettes.

Objectives

- To provide a smoke-free school environment for everyone.
- To provide young people with consistent message regarding tobacco and drug use and appropriate role models.

Rationale

- Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in the UK.
- Second Hand Smoke, 'breathing other peoples tobacco smoke' causes at least 1,000 people to die a year. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, heart disease and cause the onset of asthma, chest and ear infections and cot death in children. It also leads to over 50 children being admitted to hospital per day. 80% of smokers take up the habit as teenagers with 450 children starting smoking every day. (ASH)
- The school under the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) has a duty of care to provide a healthy work environment.
- Everyone has the right to a smoke-free environment.
- Schools have a major role to play in health education and prevention.
- Young people need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models within the academy. It has been shown that the biggest factor affecting youth smoking is the prevalence of adult smoking and young people's exposure to seeing smoking. (ASH,2004)

Strategies:

- Students will be educated about the dangers and consequences of smoking as part of the Life Skills and Science curriculum
- Tutor groups and residential houses will display anti-smoking leaflets and information
- The SLT will carry out random searches at arrival time and throughout the day, confiscate any smoking materials and inform parents/carers. If a student refuses to be searched their receive access onto school grounds may be restricted for health and safety reasons until a meeting with parents has occurred or a solution/arrangement has been made to ensure the safety of all on site
- Students who are seen smoking on school grounds will all be offered 1:1 support from one of our trained smoking cessation advisers
- If they refuse this they will receive an educational consequence to show them the dangers to their health and parents and carers will be informed
- Parents and carers of students who are repeatedly seen smoking in school grounds will be invited into school to meet with a member of SLT to agree a support plan for their son.

Restriction on smoking within the workplace

- Ramsden Hall Academy is an entirely smoke free environment, smoking is not permitted on the school grounds or in any part of the school buildings.

The enforcement of this total smoking ban is the responsibility of all designated persons within the school. Disciplinary procedure will apply for dealing with employees who breach the smoking ban at work. Employees who raise genuine concern about breaches of this policy will be protected from victimisation.

This policy applies to all employees, parents/carers, and visitors, members of the public, contractors and others working or using the school premises or vehicles. This policy will be clearly advertised and visitors to the school will be informed of it.

This smoking policy will apply to all activities held in the school including before and after school in the residential and any meetings organised which are attended by school employees as part of their work and/or visitors to such meeting/events.

Designated smoking areas

There will be no designated smoking areas provided within the school boundaries. This policy is in line with the National Healthy Schools Programme.

Facilities for smokers

No facilities for smoking in the workplace are provided although support will be given to smokers to assist them to stop smoking.

Vehicles

The smoking ban applies to all school owned/hired/leased vehicles. No-one will be allowed to smoke inside any school owned/hired/leased vehicles.

Employees must restrain from smoking in their own vehicles, when used on school business and when carrying passengers.

Legally Required Signage

All smoke free premises and vehicles will display no smoking signs that meet the requirements of the 2007 public smoking ban. Signs will make it clear which premises and vehicles are smoke free and demonstrate that the school is taking the necessary steps to meet the requirements of law.

No smoking signs need to be displayed in a prominent position at every entrance to smoke free premises. The school complies fully with this requirement.

Help with smoking cessation

Ramsden Hall School recognises that smoking is an addiction and aims to provide a supportive environment for those wishing to stop smoking. Pupils will be offered support through the school nurse, CPSHE and Science lessons. There is also support for pupils and staff through the NHS Smoke free help line (08000 224332).

Education and Publicity

Suitable anti-smoking posters and leaflets will be displayed in the school to create a positive visual message, which supports a smoke free lifestyle. The dangers of tobacco will be addressed comprehensively in the schools drugs, alcohol, and tobacco education programme in line with DfE and Healthy Schools guidance.