

NORTHWICK PARK PRIMARY ACADEMY

POLICY FOR A SMOKEFREE SCHOOL

Aim

Our aim at Northwick Park Primary Academy is to create a smoke free school.

Objectives

The objectives of the policy are:

- To provide a smoke free school environment for everyone.
- To provide young people with a 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 people’s 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 Governments White Paper ‘Choosing Health – making healthy choices’, identifies plans to place restrictions on smoking within the workplace.
- ❖ 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 school. It has been shown that the biggest factor affecting youth smoking is prevalence of adult smoking and young people’s exposure to seeing smoking. (ASH, 2004).

Restrictions on smoking within the workplace

Smoking will NOT be permitted in any part of the school premises, including kitchens, within the entrance area to the school or on land adjacent to the school building (car park, garden areas, walkway etc.) where this forms part of the school premises.

The enforcement of this total smoking ban will be the responsibility of all designated responsible persons within the school (all staff – full/part time). The school’s disciplinary procedure will apply for dealing with employees who breach the smoking ban at work. Employees who raise genuine concerns about breaches of this policy will be protected from victimisation.

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

Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to leave the premises.

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

Employees should avoid being seen smoking in public in sight of pupils, parents and visitors in order to reinforce a comprehensive approach.

Designated smoking areas

There will be NO designated smoking areas provided within the school premises. This policy is in line with the standard promoted by the National Healthy Schools.

Facilities for Smokers

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

Vehicles

Employees are asked to refrain from smoking in their own vehicles, when used on school business and when carrying passengers.

Help with smoking cessation.

Northwick Park Primary Academy will support employees in school wishing to give up smoking by advertising and promoting external smoking cessation services and through both regular health promotion activities and specialist advice regarding health promotion activity.

New Buildings

This policy will apply equally to all future premises at the design stage of any new building and refurbishment or relocation project.

Appointments

This school is a No Smoking school and this should be made clear within all its appointments procedures, staff handbooks and school prospectus.

Links

- **Health and Safety**

The above policy on smoking at work forms part of the school's Health and Safety Policy arrangements.

- **Healthy Schools**

The policy was developed in line with recommended good practice from the Healthy Schools initiative.

- **Drug Education**

Cigarettes contain tobacco which is a drug thus lining the Schools Smoke free Policy to drug education and opportunities within the D of E guidance.

- **Council Policy**

This Smoking Policy also falls in line with recommendations by the Education and Culture Department.

Review

This policy will be reviewed after one year, and thereafter every three years. This policy was reviewed in December 2014. The next review will be in 2017.