



SPARKEN HILL
ACADEMY

No-Smoking Policy

Adopted: July 2016

Reviewed: July 2018

Reviewed: July 2020

Reviewed: September 2022

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Review Date: October 2025

Introduction

1. Second hand smoking, breathing in other people's tobacco smoke, has been shown to cause cancers, heart and respiratory disease in non-smokers. It has a negative effect on those people who suffer from conditions such as asthma. There is considerable evidence regarding the impact of smoking behaviours on children.
2. As smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in our society, as a school we believe it is our responsibility to promote a no smoking policy and to give everyone the right to breathe clean air and to avoid the dangers of second hand smoke. Children need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models if they are to recognise no smoking as the norm.
3. Sparken Hill Academy aims to provide a safe working and learning environment for both pupils and staff and to this end, the whole school supports a no smoking policy that reinforces the messages within the PSHCE/Citizenship curriculum and the health initiatives in the wider community.
4. This policy has obvious links with the Health and Safety Policy, the PSHE/Citizenship Policy and the Drug Education Policy.

5. The policy seeks to:

- Provide a no smoking environment within both the school building and grounds that protects the health of the whole school community and visitors to the school.
- To promote a healthy lifestyle and enable pupils to make responsible healthy choices in relation to smoking. This is reflected within the school's PSHCE and science curriculum and by providing excellent role models for all children and adults within the school.
- Equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressure to smoke, either from their peer group, or from society in general.
- To set the example of a health promoting smoke-free environment to the whole school and wider community in line with government guidance and local priorities to reduce the prevalence of smoking and the associated risks.
- Guarantee the right of non-smokers to breathe in air that is free from tobacco smoke.
- Comply with Health and Safety Legislation and Employment Law.
- Raise awareness of the dangers associated with exposure to tobacco smoke.
- Take into account the needs of those who smoke and to support those who wish to stop.

Organisation

6. The dangers of smoking are addressed in Year 6, in our programme of personal, social and health education (PSHCE), with advice and support from the Health Authority.
7. As well as teaching the children about the effects that smoking has on the body, we engage them in discussions about the reasons why people start to smoke, and what they themselves should do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes.
8. The children's class teacher leads all such discussions in a sensitive manner. S/he encourages the children to explore the views of other people, and to reflect on their own personal convictions with regard to smoking. We explain that it is illegal for cigarettes to be sold to people under sixteen years of age, but our aim is for children to refrain from smoking not only for that reason, but also because they believe that smoking is a wrong lifestyle choice.
9. The dangers of smoking sometimes arise as an issue in science lessons at Key Stage 2, when children learn about the way substances affect the whole body.
10. When such an issue arises, class teachers deal with it in context, answer the children's questions to the best of their ability, taking care to explain that smoking is dangerous, and should be avoided.

The Smoke-Free Environment

11. The following statements apply to all staff, pupils and visitors to the school e.g. parents, visiting suppliers, temporary staff, contractors and governors.

Smoking is not permitted in any part of the school site at any time. This includes all school buildings and the outside areas of the school including playgrounds, sports field or car parks. **This includes the use of E-Cigarettes.**

Smoking by anyone on a school visit or trip is not permitted.

Smoking at the entrances and exits to the school site will be strongly discouraged.

A no smoking statement is included in the school's prospectus and staff handbook.

The relevant signage is displayed around school.

Smoking is not permitted in the school minibus or any vehicles being used on school business when pupils or staff are passengers

Staff members are expected to inform visitors of the no smoking policy. However, they are not expected to enter into any confrontation, which may put their personal safety at risk.

Support for smokers

13. For those who smoke, information about NHS Stop Smoking Services and local support are available. Support from our Workplace Champions will also be provided.

Disciplinary action

14. The day-to-day implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the whole school community and everybody has a duty to respond to breaches of the policy. Any persons who smoke on the premises will be asked to extinguish the offending item and/or leave the premises.

15. If any members of staff wish to smoke, they must leave the school site. Staff or students who breach the no smoking policy will be advised that this could result in disciplinary action.

16. Breaches of this policy by pupils will result in the involvement of their parents.

Monitoring and reviewing

17. The policy will be reviewed in line with the school review cycle to ensure that it continues to meet the aims.