

Ullesthorpe C of E Primary School

Non-Smoking Policy M18

Signed by the Governing Body:

Date agreed by the Governing Body: October 2017

Review date: Autumn 2020 or earlier if required.

1 Introduction

1.1 At Ullesthorpe CE Primary School we believe that smoking is harmful to health, so we strongly discourage our children from smoking and being put in a position to inhale second hand smoke. **Consequently, the school is a non-smoking site.**

2 Rationale

2.1 Research shows that almost a quarter of all young people are regular smokers by the age of 15. Almost all adult smokers took up the habit when they were children. About 450 children a day take up the habit, and they can become addicted within days, from just one or two cigarettes. Smoking is regarded by the medical profession as the major cause of many illnesses. It is estimated that approximately 120,000 smokers a year die in the UK because of their smoking habit. Children can be harmed by passive smoking, i.e. by inhaling smoke from other people's cigarettes. It is known that smoking is harmful to the unborn babies of mothers who smoke. For all these reasons, our school does all it can to discourage children from smoking, and to educate them in such a way that they adopt a healthy lifestyle.

3 Objectives

3.1 We aim to:

- help children know and understand the dangers of smoking, and the harmful effects that smoking can have on their bodies;
- provide children with the knowledge and information necessary for them to make responsible choices in relation to smoking;
- 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.
- guarantee a healthy working environment, protecting the current and future health of employees, pupils and visitors;
- guarantee the right of non-smokers to breathe in air free from tobacco smoke
- comply with Health and Safety Legislation and Employment Law
- take account of the needs of those who smoke and to support those who wish to stop.

4 Curriculum Organisation

4.1 The dangers of smoking are addressed in Years 5 and 6, in our programme of personal, social, health and economic education (PSHEE). 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. 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 children, 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.

4.2 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 body. When such an issue arises, class teachers deal with it in context, and answer the children's questions to the best of their ability, taking care to explain that smoking is dangerous, and should be avoided.

5 Staff

5.1 We do not allow smoking on the school site. We do not want to present smoking as acceptable, nor do we wish to present adult smokers as role models. Any members of staff who wish to smoke must leave the school site. Any member of staff found smoking at school would be in serious breach of employment terms.

6 Visitors

6.1 All visitors, contractors and deliverers are required to comply with the non-smoking policy. 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.

7 Support for smokers

7.1 Support and advice is available from the school nurse and from national Don't Give Up Giving Up free phone hotline 0800 169 0 169

8 Monitoring and review

8.1 It is the role of the senior staff to ensure that this policy is fully implemented on a day-to-day basis. Every three years, or earlier if necessary, the governors review this policy.