

West End First School Smoke Free Policy

Introduction

West End First School recognises the fact that smoking can have an adverse effect on the health and safety of the school community and realises the benefits of enforcing a Smoke Free Policy on the premises. In line with NCC recommendations and Health Act 2006 Legislation, this policy applies to everyone who is on site at West End First School.

It is a recognised fact that a Smoke Free Policy is of benefit to the health of all members of the school community and this policy has been developed in consultation with NHS UK.

The school actively promotes health benefiting policies and includes health education as part of the whole school curriculum. West End First School established smoke free status in 2005 and new staff and visitors are made aware of the policy through clearly displayed signs in and around the building and through a statement on the school website.

The Smoke Free Policy goes beyond the Health Act 2006 legislation, which came into effect on the 1st July 2007, by making not only all buildings smoke free, but by making the whole school site smoke free.

The PSHE co-ordinator, Headteacher and Governors have all been involved in the formulation of this policy.

Rationale

Smoking is the single most preventable cause of ill health and premature death. Exposure to second hand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other illnesses. Exposure to role models who smoke also normalises smoking behaviour, which can have a significant negative impact on the delivery of the smoke free message.

West End First School recognises that a smoke free environment benefits the health of all children and adults alike and it is acknowledged that it must be made clear to everyone that smoking is prohibited, both inside and outside, anywhere on school premises. This includes the use of all kinds of electronic vaping devices, as we do not want to promote any kind of "smoking" related activity as being normalised for young people. As such, we would ask that all visitors to the school site refrain from using any "smoking" device anywhere on the school site, including all the grounds.

The staff at West End First School actively promote children and young people's self-esteem through the PSHE curriculum which includes drug education which highlights the dangers of smoking and gives young people the opportunity to investigate this further.

West End First School recognises the role it has to play in being a health promoting establishment. It is important to provide health education to give pupils the opportunity to discuss with peers and adults various choices, and the consequences of these choices. This in turn will lead them on to making informed decisions about their actions and having the knowledge to recognise the consequences of these actions.

Aims and objectives

Aims

The aim of this policy is to make all people aware that West End First School operates a smoke free policy that is for the benefit of all staff and pupils on the premises.

Objectives

- To inform everyone that smoking is not permitted in the school building or grounds by any person at any time.
- To support children to learn and understand the dangers of smoking and second hand smoke exposure.
- To support the school community to prevent the uptake of smoking and provide information for those who wish to stop smoking.

- To inform everyone that any form of smoking, including the use of electronic vaping devices, is not permitted in the school buildings or grounds by any person at any time. This includes staff, pupils, visitors and contractors. It also applies to adults accompanying pupils on school visits.

Implementation

The Headteacher (and Deputy Head Teacher in HT's absence) is responsible for policy implementation and monitoring. Signs in and around the building inform people about the policy and new staff will be made aware of the policy when taking up post. New parents are informed of the Smoke Free Policy through the school's website. Signage on all entrances and exits of all school buildings are in line with the Health Act 2006 legislation.

This policy is available on the school website at www.westend.northumberland.sch.uk. A hard copy may be requested from the school office.

Breaches of Policy

Anyone found smoking within the school grounds will be immediately asked to cease. Further breaches will be brought to the attention of the governing body.

Further support

West End First School aims to support smokers wishing to stop smoking by giving them information about the NHS Stop smoking service. This is available through local health services.

Further information and support is available from:

- NHS Smoking Helpline 0300 123 1044
- ASH (Action on Smoking & Health) 0207 404 0242 www.ash.org.uk
- Northumbria NHS Stop Smoking Service (Electronic Vaping Device friendly)
01670 813135
NHS Choices <http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/smoking/Pages/stopsmokingnewhome.aspx>
- (NHCT) Northumbria Health Improvement Service (Tobacco Control Team)
01670 811972
(NCC) Northumberland County Council (Safeguarding & Wellbeing Team)
01670 622738
- Fresh North East is a regional tobacco control programme working in partnership with the NHS and local authorities. It sets out to reduce illness and deaths related to smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke. 0191 333 7140 www.freshne.com

This policy was approved by the Health and Safety Committee of the Governing Body on

____03-05-17____

REVIEW DATE: March 2020

Head Teacher: Mrs. Jane Bushell

Named Governor: Mrs. Claire Cheesman (Health and Safety governor)