



Aspiring Foundations Federated Nursery Schools

No-smoking Policy

Rationale

At Aspiring Foundations Federated Nursery Schools we are committed to ensuring that children's health and well-being are promoted at all times. Smoking is regarded by the medical profession as the major cause of many illnesses. Tobacco smoke contains over 4,000 toxic chemicals and at least 60 known Grade A carcinogens. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death and of health inequalities in our society today; and is responsible for over 80,000 deaths in the UK annually.

Smoking is not only a threat to smokers; passive or second-hand smoking (involuntarily breathing in the smoke of others, sometimes called exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke) is established as a cause of serious disease in non-smokers – including cancer, cardiovascular disease and numerous respiratory conditions. Children, pregnant women and those with established disease such as asthma are particularly vulnerable.

Short-term exposure to passive smoking leads to effects ranging from headaches, sore throat, dizziness and nausea, increased cough, wheeze and phlegm production, to irritation of the eyes and the nuisance of foul smelling clothes and hair.

Smoke-free legislation was introduced in the UK in 2007 and has been highly effective in reducing exposure to passive smoke at work and in public places. There have been substantial health benefits, and in particular a marked reduction in hospital admissions with coronary heart disease. Other health benefits associated with smoke free legislation include reduced incidence of childhood asthma and an increase in the number of people cutting down or quitting smoking.

Tackling smoking amongst young people is one of the major priorities for Halton Borough Council.

Schools are in an ideal position to influence the health of the community they serve as the school environment has a key role to play in reducing smoking amongst young people, staff and visitors.

In accordance with the 'Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage' 2014 (3.56) the nursery operates a strict no smoking policy within its buildings and grounds. This policy is also in line with national legislation (Health Act 2006) which bans smoking in all enclosed public places, and Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) which gives employers a general duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety of all employees.

Warrington Road Nursery School is committed to denormalising smoking to protect public health and prevent children from becoming the next generation of smokers

This Policy therefore also applies to the use of e-cigarettes or electronic cigarettes.

Purpose

The purpose of this No Smoking Policy is to provide a healthy and safe working environment for all. Therefore this policy seeks to:

- Guarantee a healthy and safe working environment and protect the current and future health of children, employees, parents, contractors and other visitors.
- Guarantee the right of everyone to breathe in air free from tobacco smoke
- Comply with Health and Safety Legislation and Employment Law
- Provide an environment that denormalises smoking and supports smokers to quit
- Raise awareness of the dangers associated with exposure to tobacco smoke
- Inform staff and managers of their responsibilities in respect of the Policy
- Support smokers to help them cope with increased restrictions on their smoking during the working day.
- Promote the culture of a smoke free organisation

Procedures

- All staff, parents and volunteers are made aware of our no-smoking policy. Whilst the use of E cigarettes is not illegal this policy is extended to prohibit the use of E-cigarettes inside the building.
- Staff will not be permitted to smoke or take a smoking break during working hours this includes the use of E Cigarettes. This excludes any official lunch time break
- All staff when allowed to smoke,(e.g. – during any official lunch time break) shall do so **outside the boundaries of the Centre and away from the outside play spaces**. This includes car parks.
- Visitors - All visitors, contractors and deliverers are required to abide by the smoke free policy. Staff are expected to inform visitors of the policy. However, they are not expected to enter into any confrontation that may put their personal safety at risk. It is the responsibility of the Headteacher / Assistant Headteacher to enforce the policy at all times and to advise employees and ensure that visitors to the site comply with these arrangements.
- Individuals who do not comply with the Smoking Legislation are liable to a fixed penalty and fine and also criminal prosecution. Additionally, any employee wilfully refusing to observe the Policy by smoking on the school premises, including the car park, will be liable to disciplinary action in accordance with the schools Disciplinary Procedure.
- In the event of a breach of the Policy by a visitor or an employee of another organisation, they should be asked to extinguish all smoking materials and be informed that smoking is only permissible outside the school premises. If they continue to smoke the matter should be referred to the headteacher. In the event that employees of other organisations continue to breach the Policy, the appropriate organisation should be advised in writing of the consequences of breaching these requirements.
- We display no-smoking signs.
- The no-smoking policy is stated in our information brochure for parents.
- Parents and carers are reminded about the no-smoking policy prior to each educational visit
- We actively encourage no-smoking by having information for parents and staff about where to get help to stop smoking if they are seeking this information.
- Staff who smoke during their break make every effort to reduce the effect of the odour and lingering effects of passive smoking for children and colleagues.
- Any contractor employed on site is made aware of the ban before work is undertaken.
- Prospective employees are advised of the Policy
- The Policy forms part of the induction programme
- All prospective candidates for employment are informed of the policy.

Support for Smokers

Information on stopping smoking with support from local cessation services is available for smokers. The NHS Smoking Helpline number is 0800 169 0 169. The helpline is open daily from 7am to 11pm and can offer advice and support on stopping smoking along with a website at www.givingupsmoking.co.uk. Additionally, visit www.gossmokefree.co.uk an online resource for all the advice, information and support you need to stop and stay stopped

Legal framework

- The Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006
www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/20063368.htm
- The Smoke-free (Signs) Regulations 2007
www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/20070923.htm
- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2014)