

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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*'Following in God's way, Learning day by day, Working with one another,
Caring for each other'*

Non-Smoking and Vaping Policy

(see also Drugs)

Date of Policy: 2023

Review Date: 2026

1 Introduction

1.1 At St Luke's C.E. Primary School we believe that smoking is harmful to health, so we strongly discourage adults and our children from smoking or vaping. Consequently, the school is a non-smoking and non-vaping establishment. This Non Smoking and Vaping policy outlines the guidelines and expectations regarding smoking and vaping within the school premises and during school-related activities. It is designed to support the wellbeing and health of all members of the school community, including pupils, staff, and visitors

2 Aims

2.1 The aims of this policy are to:

- Promote a healthy and smoke-free environment within the school premises.
- Protect the health and wellbeing of all individuals within the school community.
- Educate pupils about the dangers of smoking and vaping.
- Ensure compliance with legal requirements related to smoking and vaping in educational settings.

3 Rationale

3.1 Research shows that almost a quarter of all young people are regular smokers by the age of 15. Almost all adult smokers took 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. Seventy per cent of children are exposed to other people's smoke when they go out, and thirty-four per cent are exposed to smoke in their own homes. 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.

4 Organisation

- 4.1** The dangers of smoking and vaping are addressed in our programme of personal, social and health education (PSHE), with advice and support from the Health Authority. As well as teaching the children about the effects that smoking and vaping has on the body, we engage them in discussions about the reasons why people start to smoke, vape and what they themselves should do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes. The staff lead all such discussions in a sensitive manner. Staff encourage the children to explore the views of other people, and to reflect on their own personal convictions with regard to smoking and vaping. We explain that it is illegal for cigarettes and e-cigarettes to be sold to people under eighteen years of age, but our aim is for children to refrain from smoking or vaping not only for that reason, but also because they believe that smoking and vaping is a wrong lifestyle choice.
- If a pupil is found smoking or vaping the parents will be contacted immediately and contact made with Wigan LA (Be Well) smoking cessation team for further advice.
- 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.
- 4.3** Parents may view any of the smoking/vaping-related teaching materials that we use in our school. We make these materials readily available on request..

5 Staff

- 5.1** **No Smoking and Vaping Zone:** The entire school premises, including all buildings, outdoor areas, and vehicles, are designated as no smoking and no vaping zones. This includes all school-sponsored events and activities, both on and off-site.
- Staff and Visitor Compliance:** Staff members, parents, and any visitors to the school are expected to adhere to the no smoking and no vaping policy at all times while on school grounds, regardless of the time of day or purpose of visit. We do not allow smoking or e-cigarettes on the school premises, as we do not want to present smoking as acceptable. Nor do we wish to present adult smokers as role models. If any members of staff wish to smoke or vape, they

must leave the school site. Should we find any member of staff smoking at school, we would consider this a serious breach of the terms of employment.

6 Monitoring and review

- 6.1 It is the role of the headteacher to ensure that this policy is fully implemented. Every three years, or earlier if necessary, the governors review this policy as part of their curriculum committee's monitoring of the effectiveness of the school's PSHE programme. By implementing and upholding this Non Smoking and Vaping policy, the school is committed to creating a safe and healthy environment that supports the wellbeing of everyone within the school community and aligns with the expectations outlined by the appropriate inspectorate.

