Smokefree Policy Template

**Aim**

To create a whole school approach to smoking and vaping to create a smokefree and vapefree environment at [school/college name]

**Objectives**

* To provide an environment that is free from the harmful effects of tobacco and vaping products for students, staff and visitors.
* To support a smokefree and vapefree future for all students.
* To ensure that smoking and vaping is part of the school’s curriculum of drug education.
* To promote the benefits of smokefree and vapefree living to all children and young people.
* To offer support and guidance to students who wish to stop smoking or stop vaping.

**Rationale**

* All members of the school community have the right to work and learn in a smoke free and vape free environment.
* Smoking is the biggest cause of preventable ill-health and reduced life expectancy in the UK.
* Exposure to secondhand smoke (passive smoking) increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other illnesses. Insufficient research has been completed regarding vaping and its potential health implications to date. Though less harmful than smoking, it is not without risk.
* The Health Act 2006 requires all indoor workspaces, including schools, to be smokefree and for smokefree signage to be placed at all entrances.
* Nicotine is a highly addictive substance.
* Tobacco products and vaping products are age restricted.
* Results from the Wiltshire Children and Young People’s (8 to 18+ years) Health and Wellbeing Survey 2021 showed that 99% of primary school children, 88% of secondary children and 73% of Year 12/FE have never smoked. These results are similar to those from primary and secondary schools in 2020 and 2017 and show an increase in those who have never smoked in Year 12/FE settings. [FAB Research : Wiltshire Healthy Schools](https://www.wiltshirehealthyschools.org/partnership-projects/fab-research/)
* The 2021 Wiltshire survey also shows 98% of primary, 84% of secondary and 73% of year 12/FE pupils reported that they have never used e-cigarettes (Vaping). Proportions of secondary and year 12/FE pupils reporting vaping weekly or daily have increased slightly over the years. [FAB Research : Wiltshire Healthy Schools](https://www.wiltshirehealthyschools.org/partnership-projects/fab-research/)
* Nationally, in 2023 experimental underage vaping has increased by 50% to 11.6% of 11-17 year olds [Use of e-cigarettes among young people in Great Britain - ASH](https://ash.org.uk/resources/view/use-of-e-cigarettes-among-young-people-in-great-britain)

**Scope of policy**

For the purposes of this policy, the term ‘smoking’ includes any tobacco-based product.

For the purposes of this policy, the term ‘vaping’ includes the use of any form of electronic cigarette, whether or not it contains nicotine.

For the purposes of this policy, the term ‘smokefree’ refers to a site where there is no smoking and no vaping.

**Restrictions on smoking and vaping**

Smoking or vaping is not permitted on any part of the school premises, within the entrance areas to the school or on land adjacent to the school building where this forms part of the school premises. This includes car parks, garden areas and paths.

The enforcement of this smokefree policy will be the responsibility of all designated staff in the school. The policy applies to employees, students, parents, visitors, members of the public, contractors and others working at or using the school’s premises or vehicles.

Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to leave the premises.

The smokefree policy will apply to all activities held in the school including before and after school sessions and any meetings organised which are attended by school employees as part of their work and/or visitors to such events.

**Designated smoking areas**

There will be no designated smoking or vaping areas provided within the school premises.

If there is a caretaker’s house, this may be excepted, for the sole use of the caretaker and residents, as per DfE guidance, and never be visible to the students. [DfE\_and\_ACPO\_drug\_advice\_for\_schools.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/209993/DfE_and_ACPO_drug_advice_for_schools.pdf)

Support will be offered to anyone who wants to stop smoking or vaping.

**Smoking and vaping prevention**

* Smoking and vaping education is part of the school’s PSHE drug education PSHE (including the health effects, legal, economic and social aspects of tobacco/vape use) which may be delivered across other curriculum areas.
* A range of age-appropriate methodologies will be used to deliver tobacco/vaping education with the aim of preventing the uptake of smoking and vaping.
* The school supports smoking and vaping education through the transition phase from primary to secondary school.
* Training on drugs including tobacco/vaping is available for all teaching staff as appropriate as well as pastoral staff and those involved in smoking/vaping prevention work including: the Head teacher, Year Heads, school governors, pastoral staff.

**Student smoking or vaping**

Students will not be permitted to smoke or vape during the school day, on the school premises or within the entrance areas to the school or on land adjacent to the school building where this forms part of the school premises. This includes car parks, garden areas and paths.

Students will not be permitted to smoke or vape in uniform at any time.

Any student found in possession of cigarettes, vapes, lighters, matches or other smoking and vaping paraphernalia will have them confiscated for parents/guardians to collect.

Non compliance by students will be dealt with following the school’s behaviour policy.

**Vehicles**

The smokefree policy applies to all school owned/hired/leased vehicles. Smoking and vaping are not permitted inside any school owned/hired/leased vehicles. Employees are asked to refrain from smoking and vaping in their own vehicles when used on school business and when carrying passengers.

**Residential trips**

The smokefree policy will apply to all residential trips and the accommodation used.

**Support with smoking cessation**

The school recognise that common symptoms of nicotine withdrawal are common, but not limited to agitation, physical discomfort, and lack of concentration. Consideration is needed for regular nicotine users and the impact a smokefree and vapefree policy will have.

The school will support the use of licensed nicotine replacement products in school by students when they are being used in an abstinence attempt. Wiltshire Council will provide the school with information on giving up smoking or vaping services to support school staff, students and parents/carers.

**E-Cigarettes**

The charging or use of any vape/electronic cigarette on school premises will not be permitted.

**Signage**

No smoking signs will be displayed at all main entrances to the school buildings. Posters that promote a smokefree and vapefree positive visual message will be displayed in school areas. Vaping information posters can be accessed via this link [11435 SFS – A4 Vaping Posters A Wiltshire.pdf (wiltshirehealthyschools.org)](https://www.wiltshirehealthyschools.org/documents/smoking%20and%20vaping/11435%20SFS%20%E2%80%93%20A4%20Vaping%20Posters%20A%20Wiltshire.pdf)

**Guidance**

This policy was developed in line with recommended good practice and guidance from NICE (NG209), the DfE (DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools), Wiltshire Council Public Health and the Wiltshire Healthy Schools programme.

**Where to find local and national support services**

Wiltshire council health improvement hub [Health improvement coaches - Wiltshire Council](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/public-health-improvement-coaches)

Wiltshire council healthy schools [Vaping : Wiltshire Healthy Schools](https://www.wiltshirehealthyschools.org/core-themes/pshee/drugs-alcohol-and-tobacco/vaping/)

The Wrap [The Wrap | Smoking and Vaping (thewrapdhi.org.uk)](https://www.thewrapdhi.org.uk/find-information/drugs-alcohol/nicotine)

The Wrap [The Wrap | Nicotine (cigarettes, vaping, puff bars) (thewrapdhi.org.uk)](https://www.thewrapdhi.org.uk/find-information/drugs-alcohol/nicotine)

FRANK [Contact Frank Directly | Confidential Advice | FRANK (talktofrank.com)](https://www.talktofrank.com/contact-frank)

NHS [Quit smoking - Better Health - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/quit-smoking/)

**Review**

This will be reviewed after one year, and thereafter every three years.

This policy was adopted by the Governing Body at it’s full meeting in the

Term (year)

Date:

Signature (chair of governors)

Date:

First review date:

Second review date: