



## Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School No Smoking and No Vaping Policy



N.B When we refer to smoking this also includes vaping.

### 1 Introduction

1.1 At Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School, we believe that smoking is harmful to health, so we strongly discourage our children from smoking. Consequently, the school is a non-smoking establishment.

There can be little doubt that attitudes towards smoking in public areas and at workplaces have changed dramatically, following an increased concern about matters of health and safety generally and associated educational issues. More recently there have been specific concerns over the effects of "passive smoking" and a growing tendency among children and young people to smoke.

Smoking is known to be the principal avoidable cause of premature deaths in the UK. That is why the Government White Paper "Choosing Health: Making healthier choices easier", focused on this issue.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 all workplaces in England were made smoke free (Health Act 2006 and the Smoke -free (premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006). From that date it was made a criminal offence to smoke in a smoke - free place.

### 2 Rationale

2.1 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 Aims and objectives

Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School regards itself as a health-promoting organisation. It recognises that its staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion. In light of the evidence that second hand smoke causes damage to health this Smoking Policy has been implemented.

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.

### 4 Organisation

4.1 The dangers of smoking are addressed from Year 4, in our Jigsaw scheme for personal, social and health education (PSHE). 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 people under 16 years of age, but our aim is for children to refrain from



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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 School staff**

- 5.1 We do not allow smoking on any part of the school site because we do not want smoking to appear acceptable or adult smokers to appear as role models. If any members of staff do wish to smoke, they must leave the school site. Should any member of staff be found smoking on the school premises in contravention of this policy, we would consider this a serious breach of the terms of employment.

### **6 Signage**

- 6.1 Clearly worded signs will be sited at the entrance and in prominent positions throughout the school premises.

### **7 Monitoring and review**

- 7.1 It is the role of the head teacher to ensure that this policy is fully implemented. Every two years, or earlier if necessary, the governors review this policy as part of their curriculum committee's monitoring.

**Reviewed: October 2024**

**Next Review: October 2026**