

# Fair Ways Education

## Anti-smoking including E Cigarettes Policy

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**Contributors:**

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## Fair Ways Vision, Mission and Values (2024)

### Our vision

To build a community that changes lives, makes a difference to society and leaves a legacy greater than ourselves and our contributions.

### Our mission

To grow a compassionate, resilient, and trauma-informed community, that embraces learning, so that we improve the lives and outcomes of individuals.

### Our values

Our values form the heart of the work we do, defined by Fair Ways people, for Fair Ways people. These are the values by which we operate, by which we are governed, and to which we are held accountable.

We therefore expect every individual within the organisation to *play their part*:

<b>P</b> ROFESSIONAL	<b>A</b> CCEPTING	<b>R</b> EFLECTIVE	<b>T</b> RANSSPARENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· We do what we say we will.</li> <li>· We approach challenges with optimism and enthusiasm.</li> <li>· We don't judge, we notice.</li> <li>· We put the needs of the service before our own personal gains.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· We don't give up on people.</li> <li>· We value all individuals and are willing to challenge them.</li> <li>· We embrace each other's differences as much as our similarities.</li> <li>· We accept responsibility for our actions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· We give feedback, we invite feedback, we listen to feedback.</li> <li>· We look inward before we look outward.</li> <li>· We learn as much from our mistakes as from our successes.</li> <li>· We listen to each other, learn from each other and grow together.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· We are always willing to explain why.</li> <li>· We have the courage to be open and honest.</li> <li>· We earn trust through our transparency.</li> <li>· We live by our values even when no-one is watching.</li> </ul>

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 There can be little doubt that attitudes towards smoking in public areas and at workplaces have changed dramatically over the past decade or so. This follows 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, especially Looked after Children and children diagnosed to having social and emotional behavioural needs.
- 1.2 The Government White paper "Choosing Health: Making healthier choices easier", promise new action to tackle tobacco and reduce the deaths caused by smoking in the UK every year. This is why in 2007 the introduction of smoke free areas was introduced and all workplaces in England must be smoke free (Health Act 2006 and the smoke free (premises and enforcement) regulations 2006). It is now a criminal offence to smoke in a smoke-free place.
- 1.3 Smoking is known to be a serious risk to health. It is a significant cause of disease and premature death. In addition, there is now evidence that "passive smoking", the inhaling of other people's smoke, can cause lung cancer in non-smokers, as well as causing a deterioration of respiratory conditions.

## **2 Aims**

- 2.1 Fair Ways Education regards itself as a health-promoting organisation. It recognises that its staff act as role models for young people in all aspects of school life, including health promotion. In light of the evidence that secondhand smoking causes damage to health, this smoking policy has been implemented to:
  - Protect staff, young people, visitors and contractors from the effects of tobacco smoke.
  - Acknowledge the educational role of the organisation in discouraging young people to smoke and starting to smoke.
  - To be a health promoting school including passing all aims and objectives within the Healthy School Award.
  - Raise awareness of dangers of smoking through P.S.H.E lessons and help smokers to quit.

## **3 Purpose**

- 3.1 The purpose of this smoking policy is to provide a healthy and safe learning environment for all employees, young people, parents, contractors and other visitors.

- 3.2 The intention is not to confront smokers but to encourage and help those that wish to give up. The young people that attend Fair Ways Education have arrived after failing in most educational mainstream and specialist provisions. They arrive from very traumatic backgrounds and along their journey have been involved in substance mis-use for a number of years, including smoking which they have learnt through family or used to help cope with life events. The issue is not whether someone smokes, but where and when he or she smokes and how the school offers the necessary support if they wish to stop. Fair Ways Education main priority is to engage its young people in education and building trust and positive relationships with adults. Once this is established then smoking and other health related issues are tackled.

#### **4 Main School Ban**

- 4.1 This smoking policy would not allow any smoking including E Cigarettes (Vapes) within the boundaries of the main school building at any time, by anyone – staff, young people, parents / carers or visitors, under any circumstances.
- 4.2 The school has a designated smoking area away from the main school building.
- 4.3 It would be the responsibility of the Head of School and the staff to enforce the policy at all times and to advise everyone and ensure that visitors to the school site comply with these arrangements.
- 4.4 The school will display signs / notices reminding people that this is a smoke free site.

#### **5 Support to Everyone**

- 5.1 The Head of School recognises that staff and young people who smoke may need support either to give up or help control their smoking.
- 5.2 The school will make available to staff and young people the NHS smoking helpline number to get free advice and for information on your nearest **Stop Smoking Service on 0800 013 0845**. Young people will also be offered each half term the opportunity to visit their GP / pharmacy to gain the resources needed to stop smoking.
- 5.3 Staff Co-operation
- Staff are not allowed to smoke cigarettes including E Cigarettes (Vapes) in the presence / sight of young people or parents in the designated smoking area.

This would include trips outside of school hours and any timetabled offsite activities.

- Staff are not allowed to smoke cigarettes including E Cigarettes (Vapes) on the main school premises.
- Staff are not permitted to give pupils tobacco E Cigarettes (Vapes)
- Staff to promote and educate pupils around the dangers of smoking.

#### 5.4 Young People

- Smoking cigarettes including E Cigarettes (Vapes) among students during school hours by the main school building is not permitted.
- Smoking cigarettes including E Cigarettes (Vapes) among students on school visits or trips is not permitted.
- Help will always be provided to those pupils who want advice and the dangers of smoking will be taught in P.S.H.E throughout key stage 3 and 4.
- Young People caught smoking cigarettes including E Cigarettes (Vapes) by the main school building will be recorded on Clearcare and all relevant parties will be informed i.e. social worker etc. The following actions will be considered:
  1. forms completed and logged
  2. loss of points rewards / loss of break times / inclusion
  3. awareness session on the dangers of smoking
  4. letter home to parents / carers and social workers
  5. details on support stop smoking services through leaflets and poster (provided)
  6. referral to drop-in sessions with external agencies
  7. repetition or refusal to comply may result in an exclusion from the main school site
  8. Students that smoke or vape within the school building will be excluded at the discretion of the head teacher

#### 5.5 Parents

- Parents to be informed of the smoking policy and made available as per normal school policy procedures. Any changes will be communicated fully through the normal means of communication.

#### 5.6 Signage

- Clearly worded signs will be sited at the gates, entrances and in prominent positions throughout the school premises.

## **6 Associated Documentation & Legislation**

- Health Act 2006