



# No Smoking Policy

## Archibald Primary School

### Non-Smoking Policy

(See also *PSHE, Health and Safety, Drug and the administration of medicines*)

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 At Archibald 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.

#### 2 Rationale

- 2.1 Research shows that almost a quarter of all young people are regular smokers by the age of 15. Almost all adult smokers took up 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.

Middlesbrough is working towards becoming a smoke free community where no employee or member of the public is involuntarily exposed to second hand smoke.

The Health Act 2006 introduced legislation to make all enclosed workplaces and public places smoke free from 1 July 2007. This policy enhances this legislation.

Second hand smoking, breathing in other peoples tobacco smoke, has been shown to cause cancers, heart and breathing difficulties in non smokers. Archibald Primary acknowledges that second hand tobacco smoke is both, a public and work place hazard and has therefore adopted this **no smoking** policy.

#### 3 Objectives

- 3.1 We aim to:
- Guarantee a healthy working environment and protect the current and future health of employees, members and visitors
  - Guarantee the right of non-smokers to breathe in air free from tobacco smoke
  - To comply with Health & Safety Legislation and Employment Law

- Raise awareness of the dangers associated with exposure to tobacco smoke
- Take account of the needs of those who smoke and to support those who wish to stop
- Support the health and well-being of our young people through an education that enables them to make informed choice
- 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

Archibald Primary is in an ideal position to influence the health of the community we serve. Our ethos combined with our smoking education programme and the messages given about tobacco have key roles to play in reducing smoking amongst young people, staff and visitors. Mentors work with individuals as required in response to requests from parents/ staff.

- 4.1 The dangers of smoking are addressed in Year 6, 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 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 sixteen years of age, but our aim is for children to refrain from smoking not only for that reason, but also because they believe that smoking is a wrong lifestyle choice. This work contributes to our commitment to the 'be healthy' strand of Every Child Matters.

In KS1 and KS2, Teachers raise pupils awareness of the dangers associated with smoking through delivery of the **Tobacco Education** programme. This is part of our PSHCE Scheme of Work. (see Year group Curriculum Maps)

- 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-related teaching materials that we use in our school. These resources are readily available for Parents to view and can be discussed with mentors/ staff.

## **5 Staff, Parents/Carers and Visitors**

- 5.1** In line with Middlesbrough Council Policy we do not allow smoking anywhere on the school site, as we do not want to present smoking as acceptable. The use of e cigarettes is not permitted on the school site. Nor do we wish to present adult smokers as role models. Because of this, we do not allow smoking in any part of the premises, entrances or grounds at any time, by any person regardless of their status or business with Archibald, and if any members of staff wish to smoke, 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.

All visitors, contractors and deliverers are required to abide by the no smoking policy. Staff members are expected to inform customers or visitors of the no smoking policy. However they are not expected to enter into any confrontation, which may put their personal safety at risk.

Smoking is not permitted by anyone accompanying pupils on school outings.

Smoking is not permitted in vehicles or any vehicles being used on school business.

### **Support for smokers**

The PSA can signpost parents/carers to Smoking Services, local cessation services and the National Don't Give Up Giving Up free-phone number if requested.

## **7 Monitoring and review**

- 7.1** It is the role of the Headteacher 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 of the effectiveness of the school's PSHE programme. The Health and Wellbeing leader, Deputy Headteacher and Headteacher have been involved in the development of this policy.

## **8. Implementation**

A whole school approach will be used when developing and reviewing this policy. Archibald Primary will ensure that adequate signage is displayed and maintained. Tobacco will be dealt with in the same way as any other drug therefore the Incident Management procedures, as detailed in our Drug Education Policy, will be followed, ensuring staff and pupils who breach this policy are disciplined appropriately.

**Policy effective from September 2013**

**Reviewed September 2018**