

Smoking Cessation Policy

Statement of intent

Tor School has a duty to protect its employees and pupils from known hazards. We understand that the health risks associated with smoking are serious and detrimental for those who smoke, as well as people within close proximity.

We recognise that many of our pupils smoke and this is often condoned or ignored by the parents. We also recognise the social conformity aspects of smoking and the need many of our pupils have to fit in with a group. Historically in different centres we have had different policies and approaches to smoking. We now need to have one policy which goes across the whole school with the same expectations.

We are also fully aware that we do not want to create an expectation that it is ok to smoke near to the school or in nearby places such as the Tesco car park. Large groups of young people are intimidating for members of the public and many of our pupils find it difficult to manage their behaviour in such large groups. We have previously tried monitoring the pupils who smoke off site 100m away from the building but this has put staff in a precarious position that leaves them open to accusations of condoning smoking and anti-social behaviour. We have also tried to allow older pupils off site at break and lunchtime, but this also presented an opportunity for unsupervised anti-social behaviour. There are also concerns that we want to safeguard pupils from the opportunity to use or distribute drugs when unsupervised. We need a pragmatic way forward to stop the smoking of tobacco on the premises or in the immediate locality. Our site has limitations and we are in a location which is very visible with no real place where pupils can smoke surreptitiously as they might do in a large mainstream school.

We do not want to create an authoritarian punishment-based regime, however our approach to smoking is non-negotiable and ultimately sanctions may be applied.

Through this policy, we aim to:

- Create a smoke-free environment for all those within the school community, including staff, pupils, visitors, parents, etc.
- Create a smoke-free environment whilst attempting to be sensitive to those who find it difficult not to smoke on the premises.
- Clarify the use of e-cigarettes and cigarettes on, and around, the school premises.

Signed by:



Headteacher

Date:

2/10/19



Chair of Management
Committee

Date:

2/10/19

1. Legal framework

- 1.1. This policy has due regard to legislation, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
 - Health Act 2006
 - Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991
 - Nicotine Inhaling Products (Age of Sale and Proxy Purchasing) Regulations 2015
 - Equality Act 2010
- 1.2. This policy also has due regard to guidance including, but not limited to, the following:
 - <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2015/09/18/e-cigarettes-a-public-health-response/>

2. Policy application

- 2.1. The principles outlined in this policy apply to all staff, pupils, visitors, contractors and parents.
- 2.2. The principles outlined in this policy also continue to apply whether or not 'no smoking' signs are displayed.
- 2.3. All areas of the school premises, including outdoor areas, are designated smoke-free environments and, as such, all individuals are prohibited from smoking anywhere on the premises.

3. E-cigarettes on the premises

- 3.1. For the purpose of the policy, the process of using an e-cigarette is defined as vaping.
- 3.2. The school recognises the use of e-cigarettes as having significant potential to reduce tobacco use, as well as the harmful effects it causes to smokers and those around them.
- 3.3. The school does not consider the use of e-cigarettes to be professional behaviour and, therefore, staff are not permitted to use e-cigarettes in the presence of others (unless in accordance with point 3.6), particularly pupils, whilst on the premises.
- 3.4. We will use other data such as exclusions, attendance and numbers of positive and negative incidents to review the effectiveness of this policy and report this to each Management Committee meeting.

- 3.5. Vaping is not permitted in any other area of the school or grounds or within site of the school grounds.
- 3.6. Vaping is not permitted at any time in vehicles being used on behalf of the school, e.g. school minibuses, where car mileage allowance is being claimed, and at times when pupils are present in the vehicle.
- 3.7. Any individual witnessed vaping in personal vehicles as outlined above, or in vehicles used on behalf of the school, will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in [section 5](#) of this policy.
- 3.8. Staff, visitors and contractors are prohibited from purchasing e-cigarettes for pupils and any other individuals under the age of 18 at the school, e.g. visitors.

4. Smoking on the premises

- 4.1. Smoking is prohibited on the school premises at all times; there are no designated areas available on the school premises for smoking.
- 4.2. Any individual who is witnessed smoking on the premises, or within sight of the school during school hours, will be subject to disciplinary sanctions, as outlined in [section 5](#) of this policy.
- 4.3. Smoking is not permitted at any time in vehicles being used on behalf of the school, e.g. school minibuses, whether or not pupils are present, or car mileage allowance is being claimed, as smoke fumes may linger in the vehicle and affect the health of other passengers.
- 4.4. Smoking is not permitted in any personal vehicles on the school premises or within sight of the school and within the car parks of Tesco and Aldi nearby.
- 4.5. Any individual witnessed smoking in personal vehicles as outlined above, or in vehicles used on behalf of the school, will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in [section 5](#) of this policy.
- 4.6. The school does not allow smoking breaks at any times during the school day. If a member of staff wishes to smoke, they are only permitted to do so during arranged break times, e.g. lunch time, and in accordance with the principles outlined above.

NB. Only contractors, visitors and staff are permitted to leave the school premises during their break times to smoke.
- 4.7. Any pupil witnessed using cigarettes on the premises or within sight of the school during school hours will face disciplinary action.
- 4.8. Staff, visitors and contractors are prohibited from purchasing cigarettes for pupils and any other individuals under the age of 18 at the school, e.g. visitors.

5. Disciplinary sanctions

- 5.1. Staff seen smoking may be subject to a penalty fine and possible criminal prosecution depending on the nature of the breach.
- 5.2. Visitors and contractors who breach the guidelines in this policy will be asked to leave the premises. Refusal to comply with this request may result in the school contacting the police.
- 5.3. Pupils will be classed as smoking if:
 - They are seen smoking.
 - They are seen with a lit cigarette in their hand.
 - They are seen in the company of others who are smoking.
- 5.4. Pupils caught smoking will be spoken to and warned of further consequences. This conversation will be logged on Schoolpod.

If pupils are continuously caught leaving the premises smoking, we will discuss the policy with them. **Ultimately if pupils ignore the smoking policy and do not take up the opportunity to take part in a smoking cessation programme.**

6. Support

- 6.1. The school aims to implement effective, supportive procedures for those who want to quit smoking, and improve the health of both smokers and non-smokers.
- 6.2. If an employee wishes to stop smoking, they are able to request a meeting with a smoking cessation coordinator to discuss what help is available.
- 6.3. The school regularly educates pupils about the effects of smoking, both through the requirements of the national curriculum, and through additional sessions, e.g. PSHE lessons
- 6.4. Pupils are encouraged to seek help from the smoking cessation coordinators if they would like further information about the effects of smoking, would like to quit smoking, or would like to know more about additional methods of support.

7. Monitoring and review

- 7.1. This policy will be reviewed every two years by the headteacher and management committee; the next scheduled review date for this policy is April 2019. Our approach to smoking cessation will be discussed regularly in staff meetings.
- 7.2. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff, and pupils if necessary.
- 7.3. All staff, visitors and contractors are required to familiarise themselves with this policy as part of their induction periods, or upon their attendance at the school.