

No Smoking Policy

Policy written - July 2018

Policy reviewed - March 2025

To be reviewed – March 2028

No Smoking Policy

Purpose

The Acorn Partnership is committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of its employees. Exposure to second-hand smoke, i.e., breathing other people's tobacco smoke, has been medically proven to cause lung cancer and heart disease in non-smokers, as well as many other illnesses and minor conditions. Vaping is not risk free and some potentially harmful chemicals have been found in ecigarettes. As yet there is not enough information to know the long-term health effects on vapers and second hand vape cloud. In its bid to help to protect non-smokers from the effects of exposure to second-hand smoke and potentially second hand vape cloud, the Partnership will implement the smoke-free provisions of the Health Act 2006 and its subsequent regulations. The Partnership also wishes to promote the positive health of its employees and will therefore actively encourage and support those who wish to quit smoking.

Scope

This policy applies to all employees of The Acorn Partnership.

<u>Introduction</u>

The Partnership recognises the health risks associated with exposure to second-hand smoke and potentially second hand vape cloud and is committed to: -

- reducing the risks to health from exposure to second-hand smoke;
- recognising a person's rights to be protected from harm and to enjoy smoke-free air;
- educating and informing employees about the benefits of not smoking;
- encouraging and supporting employees who wish to give up smoking.

To fulfil this commitment the Council will: -

- ensure that premises and vehicles are smoke-free / vape-free;
- promote non-smoking campaigns / initiatives;
- provide assistance for employees who wish to stop smoking;
- enforce the no smoking ban.

Any breach of this policy will be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedure

Roles and responsibilities

Headteacher

- Will ensure that sufficient resources are provided to ensure compliance with this document, tailored to the specific requirements of their department.
- Is responsible for ensuring their employees read, understand, and adhere to this policy.

Employees, Contractors, Visitors

All employees, contractors and visitors have a responsibility to abide by this policy.

Arrangements

Cigarettes / E-cigarettes / Vapes

All Acorn Partnership buildings are smoke-free. E-cigarettes / vapes are included in this. The charging of e-cigarettes is not allowed within Partnership buildings due to the potential fire risk.

Grounds

Smoking / vaping is not permitted within the grounds of Partnership establishments

Smoking Breaks

No employee is entitled to take breaks, additional to their contractual entitlement, during their working day to smoke or vape.

Signs

Partnership premises will have no smoking signs in place.

Responsibilities

Persons responsible for establishments have responsibility

- (i) to display no smoking signs in buildings and vehicles
- (ii) to ensure that no-one smokes or vapes in smoke-free premises or vehicles.

Employees are required to comply with this policy and refrain from smoking and vaping in buildings and grounds which are designated smoke-free / vape-free. Individuals who do not comply with this legislation either by smoking or vaping in smoke-free buildings / vehicles or by not enforcing the legislation in premises for which they are responsible, are liable to a fixed penalty fine and possible criminal prosecution.

Assistance for Smokers

The Partnership will continue to promote and support non-smoking initiatives.

Live Life Better Derbyshire offer support for people to stop smoking. To find out more, visit: www.livelifebetterderbyshire.org.uk/services/stopping-smoking/stopping-smoking

Live Life Better Derbyshire also offer support to stop vaping. To find out more, visit: www.livelifebetterderbyshire.org.uk/services/stopping-smoking/stop-vaping-support