



Offwell Church of England Primary School
Smoke Free Policy

Reviewed: May 2014

Next review: May 2017

Rationale

This policy has been developed to protect all employees, service users, visitors and children from exposure to second hand smoke and to assist in the compliance with the Health Act 2006.

- Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill-health in our society.
- Passive smoking - breathing other people's tobacco smoke - is also potentially fatal. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, as well as many other illnesses, in non-smokers.
- Smoking is a health and safety issue for all adults who use the school: staff and parents.
- Everyone has the right to breathe clean air, and non-smokers are in the majority.
- Schools have a major role to play in working towards non-smoking being seen as the norm in society.
- Children need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models within the school.

Policy

It is the policy of Offwell C of E Primary School that the school premises are smoke free, and all employees have a right to work in a smoke free environment. Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed and substantially closed areas of the school building and grounds because:

- It gives a powerful message to children and young people that smoking is socially unacceptable
- It contributes to the development of a health promoting school
- It strongly reinforces the school's health education programme
- It means that young people may not be exposed to smoking behaviour for most of the day

- It encourages young people not to start smoking and helps smokers to quit and stay stopped
- It makes our school eligible for the National Clean Air Gold Award

The smoking policy applies to all visitors to the school - for example, parents, suppliers, supply or temporary staff, consultants and contractors.

The use of e-cigarettes is covered under this policy as they would create a potentially unprofessional impression for visitors, service users, pupils or other employees and could threaten what has become the norm of not smoking in DCC. In addition, the vapour emitted from vapour emitting e-cigarettes could be an annoyance to colleagues.

Implementation

Overall responsibility for policy implementation and review rests with the Headteacher. However, all staff are obliged to adhere to, and support the implementation of the policy.

The Headteacher shall ensure all employees and contractors are informed of the policy and their role in its implementation and monitoring. New personnel will be given a copy of the policy as part of their induction.

Appropriate 'No smoking' signs are clearly displayed at the entrances to and within the premises.

Non compliance

Any one found to be smoking in the school buildings or grounds covered by this policy will be subject to the appropriate disciplinary procedure as with any illegal behaviour. Those who do not comply with the smoke free law may also be liable to a fixed penalty fine of £50 and possible criminal prosecution

A record of all disciplinary incidents and outcomes will be maintained.

Help to Stop Smoking

The NHS offers a range of free services to help smokers give up. Visit gosmokefree.co.uk or call the NHS Smoking Helpline on 0800 169 0 169 for details. Alternatively you can text "GIVE UP" and your full postcode to 88088 to find your local NHS Stop Smoking Service.