



Title:	Smoking Policy
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Approved by:	Claire Bramley
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Learning4Life-GY

## **Smoking Policy (students & Staff)**

*“We aim to create a smoking-free school.”*

The objectives of the policy are: To provide a no-smoking school environment for everyone. To provide young people with a consistent message regarding tobacco, vaping and drug use and appropriate role models.

Rationale: - Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in the UK. Second-hand Smoke – ‘breathing other people’s tobacco smoke’ causes at least 1,000 people to die a year. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, heart disease and cause the onset of asthma, chest and ear infections and cot death in children. It also leads to over 50 children being admitted to the hospital per day. 80% of smokers take up the habit as teenagers with 450 children starting smoking every day (Action on Smoking and Health, ASH). Young people need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models within the school. It has been shown that the biggest factor affecting youth smoking is the prevalence of adult smoking and young people’s exposure to seeing smoking (ASH, 2004).

This is a no-smoking school and is made clear within all its appointments, procedures, and Employee handbook.

## **1. Policy for Staff**

The school is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of all those who work for us by providing a safe place of work and protecting all workers, service users and visitors from exposure to smoke.

All our workplaces (including vehicles owned or used by the school) are smoke-free and all staff, students and visitors have a right to a smoke-free environment, this includes the use of e-cigarettes (vaping).

This no-smoking policy complies with the Health Act 2006 and associated regulations.

This policy does not form part of any employee's terms and conditions of employment and is not intended to have any contractual effect.

This policy covers all individuals working at all levels.

Third parties who have access to our premises (such as consultants, contractors, and visitors) are also required to comply with this policy.

The school is committed to a programme of action to make this policy effective and to bring it to the attention of all Staff and all Staff are required to comply with and support this policy.

All members of the Senior Management Team have a specific responsibility to operate within the boundaries of this policy, ensure that all Staff understand the standards of behaviour expected of them and act when behaviour falls below its requirements.

Smoking of any kind is strictly prohibited anywhere on or in School premises and during Staff's normal school hours of work. The ban applies to anything that can be smoked and includes but is not limited to, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, pipes, cigars, vapes and herbal cigarettes.

There should be no smoking in any School vehicles. From 01/10/2015 it is illegal to smoke in any vehicle where there is any person under the age of 18.

The school recognises that some staff members choose to smoke and may be addicted to nicotine. This may mean that they need to smoke during the school day and may struggle to function without doing so. If this is the case staff members may smoke off the school premises but must make consideration to the following:

- Staff members can only smoke before school, after school, at break or lunchtime, providing that they have no responsibility for supervising learners at these times. This does not mean every **student** break (45 minutes).
- Cigarette breaks should be prompt - Smoking must take place off-site, and in a discreet location that should not associate the staff member to the school such as the rear car park.

This policy is in line with the National Healthy Schools Status criteria. Restrictions on smoking within the workplace Smoking will NOT be permitted in any part of the school premises, within the entrance area to the school or on land adjacent to the school building (car parks, garden areas, walkway, etc.) where this forms part of the school premises - By smoking or cigarette break we refer to any form of smoking or vaping as mentioned above.

The school recognises the difficulty that employees who wish to give up smoking may face. If you require assistance in giving up smoking, there is help available through the staff welfare policy and booklet. Alternatively, you can seek help from the NHS Smoking Helpline and other NHS services such as your local GP doctors.

The school reserves the right to amend this policy at any time.

### **BREACHES OF THE POLICY**

Breaches of this policy will be dealt with under the School's Disciplinary Policy and Procedure and, in serious cases, may be treated as gross misconduct leading to summary dismissal.

Smoking in smoke-free premises or vehicles is also a criminal offence and may result in a fixed penalty fine and/or prosecution. Please be advised council officers actively patrol this area for littering.

## 2. Policy for Learners

Student Smoking - Learners are not permitted to smoke during the school day, either on the premises or outside the school's entrances.

We recognise a duty of care to those students who smoke and are committed to helping them to break the habit. Help will be made available to those learners who want advice on how to stop smoking/vaping by visiting local support in Grimsby. If a learner chooses to smoke/vape in school or outside of the school entrance, the school will act against that learner. This will include communication with parents for an agreed action for recurring incidents.

The school recognises that some of our learners who have chosen to smoke will display behaviours that challenge them if they are prevented from smoking. In these cases, the school will discuss this policy with parents/carers and offer support to help the learner stop smoking.

Learning4Life-Gy takes learners up to the age of 19. Legally, sixth-form students are old enough to smoke. However, we do discourage the use of smoking; learners who are legally old enough to smoke should leave the site on break times only if they choose to smoke away from the site.

Sanctions will be enforced on learners who smoke that fail to follow our smoking policy to ensure a non-smoking school:

- Learners are not permitted to smoke during lesson times - There will be NO designated smoking areas provided within the school premises.
- This policy is in line with the National Healthy Schools Status criteria. Restrictions on smoking within the workplace Smoking will NOT be permitted in any part of the school premises, within the entrance area to the school or on land adjacent to the school building (car parks, garden areas, walkway, etc.) where this forms part of the school premises.
- Smoking must take place off-site, and in a discreet location that should not associate the learner to the school or be seen by other learners.
- Agreements made with parents should be documented in individual risk assessments or Positive Handling Plans.

All the rules around smoking apply to all forms of smoking, including vaping.

Non-compliance by learners will be dealt with in agreement with the school's Disciplinary Procedure. Learners will have the materials confiscated, Parents/Carers will be informed, and sanctions put in place.

Support will be sought from smokers to assist them to stop smoking if they request this and show a willingness to engage.

No Smoking Signs will be displayed at all main entrances to the school buildings (as required by the Health Act 2006). Suitable posters will also be displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message which supports a non-smoking working environment.

Date	Change Made	Whom
22/8/23	Revision – V2 to V3 – Entire new policy.	Louis Meller