



*The Ruskington
Chestnut Street CofE Primary School*

NON SMOKING POLICY

Policy Co-ordinator: Laura Suffield & Governors
Policy Dated: 20 March 2015
Reviewed Policy Date:
Other Relevant Documents:

Presented to Governors: 19 March 2015
Date to be Reviewed: 20 March 2017

Cycle Review: Cycle period

Ruskington Chestnut Street Primary School Non-Smoking Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 At Ruskington Chestnut Street Primary School we believe that smoking is harmful to health, and so we strongly discourage our children from smoking. It is a legal requirement that Ruskington Chestnut Street Primary 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. 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. 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, so that they grow up to lead a healthy lifestyle.

3 Aims and objectives

3.1 We aim to:

- 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

4.1 We teach children about the dangers of smoking as part of their personal, social and health education (PSHE) programme. 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 might do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes. The children's class teacher leads all such discussions in a sensitive manner. She/he encourages the children to explore the

views of other people, and to reflect on their own personal convictions with regard to smoking. While we explain that it is illegal to sell cigarettes to people under sixteen years of age, our aim is to help the children make their own decision not to smoke simply because they believe it is the wrong lifestyle to choose.

- 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, e.g. when we teach them about how medicines can help the body. When such an issue arises, the class teacher deals with it in context, and answers the children's questions to the best of his/her 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.

5 Staff, Visitors and Pupils

- 5.1 Smoking is illegal on the school site. Any member of staff who wishes to smoke, must leave the school site. Should we find any member of staff smoking at school, we would consider this a serious breach of their terms of employment.
- 5.2 Visitors who wish to smoke are reminded that this is a no smoking site through obvious signage across the school site. Other signage will be used for public events held on the school site. Any person found smoking on the school site will be asked to leave immediately.
- 5.3 Any pupil found smoking on the school site will be dealt with by following the Discipline Policy.

When we refer to smoking we also include the usage of electronic cigarettes (e-cigs) as pupils cannot always differentiate between what is or is not real and the action of smoking one of these e-cigs is enough to mislead pupils.

6 Monitoring and review

- 6.1 It is the role of the Head teacher to ensure that this policy is fully implemented. The Governors review this policy as part of their curriculum committee's monitoring of the effectiveness of the school's PSHE programme.

Policy adopted : March 19 2015

Policy Review: March 2017