



St Helens Primary School

Smoking and Vaping Policy

Reviewed by: FGB

On: July 2025

Next review due: July 2026

Chair of Governors: Matthew Searle

Signature: Chair of Governors:

Matthew Searle

Signature:

St Helens Primary School

Smoking and Vaping Policy

St Helens Primary School aims to help promote and encourage the healthy lifestyles of its pupils. As a result, the school prohibits smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes*, vaping* or other tobacco products or tobacco style produce or products on our school site.

Our school subscribes to the guidance provided by Public Health England which states "it would be rational for a school to prioritise risk of youth uptake and to decide to treat e-cigarettes in the same way as other age restricted products and prohibit them onsite".

Any references to smoking in this policy include all of the above, including 'vaping'.

***Definition of E-cigarettes:** E-cigarettes, personal vaporisers (PVs) and electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) are battery operated devices that mimic tobacco smoking which can be used as a replacement for cigarettes. They produce a vapour, including flavoured aromas, either with or without nicotine, rather than traditional smoke, and their use is referred to as vaping.

This policy aims to:

- provide an environment where good health is promoted for all
- highlight to all who use this school's site (buildings and grounds) that it is a 'smoke free' environment
- enable the school to tackle smoking-related issues
- raise awareness of the dangers associated with exposure to tobacco smoke and reinforce the school's health education programme
- satisfy section 2(2)(e) of the Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974, which places a duty on employers to provide a working environment for employees that is 'safe, without risks to health, and adequate as regards facilities and arrangements for their welfare at work'
- comply with the smoke free legislation under the Health Act 2006, which from 1st July 2007 has placed a duty on 'any person who controls or is concerned in the management of smoke-free premises' to ensure compulsory signage is displayed in the required places and smoking is prevented in all 'enclosed' or 'substantially enclosed' premises.

School environment

- The school site is at all times an entirely smoke free environment. Smoking / vaping is not permitted at any time anywhere in the school grounds or in the school buildings including toilets, corridors, staff room, car parks and playing fields.
- This policy applies to all persons (staff, pupils, parents, visitors and contractors) when they are on the school site. It also applies to all organisations which use the school premises at any time.
- Signage around school is put up to remind all visitors of the school's smoke free policy. Compulsory signage is displayed as required by the Health Act.
- All staff and parent helpers are expected to refrain from smoking / vaping on all school trips, activities and events.

Securing compliance

- The teaching staff and governors should be aware of the damage that cigarette smoking and second hand smoke does to health and of the nature of tobacco addiction.
- Staff and the PSHE Leader will ensure smoking / vaping-related topics are adequately incorporated into class teaching, as and when applicable, for each Key Stage.
- Staff are requested not to smoke or vape in view of pupils during school hours (or just before/after) even if they are not on the school site in order not to portray smoking as acceptable and particularly since they may be viewed as role models by children.
- A copy of this policy is available to all on our school website.

Breaches of this policy by staff will be regarded as gross misconduct.

Parents and adult helpers

- Parents will be discouraged from smoking / vaping at entrances and exits to/from the school site whilst delivering or collecting their child to avoid portraying smoking as acceptable to children and young people.

Contractors, visitors and other users of the school site

- Contractors and users of the school site will be informed of the school's no smoking / vaping policy during the making of arrangements to carry out work or use the school site.
- Contractors, visitors and users of the school site will be discouraged from smoking / vaping at exits and entrances to the school grounds, especially in view of pupils, in order not to undermine the school's no-smoking / vaping policy or to portray smoking as acceptable.
- Smoking / vaping inside work vehicles on site is not permitted.
- Breaches of the school's no-smoking / vaping policy by contractors will be reported to the relevant company via the headteacher.