

ST CATHERINE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



SMOKING POLICY

September 2010

September 2012

Introduction:

Second hand smoke is a known health hazard. In 2004 the Government's Scientific Committee on Tobacco and Health reported that the increased risk to non-smokers of lung cancer from exposure to second hand smoke was 24% and the increased risk of heart disease 25%.

In provisions made under the Health Act 2006, all enclosed and substantially enclosed workplaces and public places are legally required to be smoke free.

The following policy has been adopted by St Catherine's Catholic High School to take all possible steps to protect employees from second hand smoke exposure and to comply with legislative requirements.

Aim:

- This school regards itself as a health-promoting organisation. It recognises that its staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion. In light of the evidence that second hand smoke causes damage to health this policy has been implemented to:
 - protect the staff, children and young people and visitors from the effects of tobacco smoke
 - acknowledge the educational role of the organisation in discouraging children and young people from starting to smoke; and
 - help smokers to quit.

Rationale :

- 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. Children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of second hand smoke.
- Breathing in second hand smoke is a health and safety issue for all adults who work at the school.
- Everyone has the right to breathe clean air.
- 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.

Smoking Policy :

Smoking is not allowed anywhere on the premises – buildings and grounds.

Staff :

Staff are recognised `role models` and as such are required not to smoke in sight of the children. This will include visits/ school trips etc and include teaching and non teaching staff.

Visitors :

The Smoking Policy applies to all Visitors to the school (including suppliers, supply or temporary staff and repair people).

Parents and Carers :

Parents and Carers are also asked to adhere to the Smoking Policy and refrain from smoking on the school grounds.

Communicating the Policy:

The following arrangements have been made for informing people of the policy's existence:

- Staff will be informed of the No Smoking Policy at recruitment.
- Clearly worded signs will be sited to inform visitors that the premises are Smoke Free.
- Staff members will inform visitors of the policy when necessary.
- Information will be included in the school prospectus and on the website to inform prospective Parents and Carers of the No Smoking Policy.

Assistance for those who smoke:

We recognise that smoking is an addictive behaviour. Anyone who wishes to give up should contact the free NHS smoking help line: 0800 169 0 169

Signed: Mrs P Sheard (Head)

Signed: Mr T Miskell (Chair of Governors)

Date ratified by Governing Body: September 2010

Date reviewed: September 2012