Holden Clough Community

Primary School



Smoke-Free Policy 2023

**Smoke Free Policy**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Review Date** | **Coordinator** | **Nominated Governor** |
| **Nov 2023** | **Nov 2025** | **Miss Hendry** |  |
| **Headteacher: Faik Kordemir** | | **Chair of Governors: Ali Basharat** | |

Contents [Statement of intent](#_bookmark0)

1. Legal framework
2. [Policy application](#_bookmark1)
3. [E-cigarettes on the premises](#_bookmark2)
4. [Smoking on the premises](#_bookmark3)
5. [Disciplinary sanctions](#_bookmark4)
6. [Support](#_bookmark5)
7. [Monitoring and review](#_bookmark6)

The governing body has overall responsibility of ensuring that the Smoke free policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds, including but not limited to: ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

Statement of intent

Holden Clough Community School has a duty to protect its employees and pupils from known hazards. We understand that the health risks associated with smoking are serious and detrimental for those who smoke, as well as people within close proximity.

What our School Council say about the importance of Holden Clough having Smoke Free Gates:

* At Holden Clough we want our environment smoke free because we care about our health and well-being.
* We are not smoking in our school because young children are going to think it is ok and it’s not. It could make people ill or even die.
* Smoking is bad for people’s health and it leaves an unpleasant smell. It’s a health hazard.
* Smoking shouldn’t be allowed at our school because if you drop it, it could catch fire on something and could put lots of lives at a high risk level.
* If you put a cigarette on the floor and a little kid picks it up maybe they could put their mouth on it. They might smoke when they are older so you are responsible for what they do.
* Smoking is bad for your lungs and people have asthma so it can hurt their lungs. Don’t smoke near kids because they could get sick.
* If you smoke in front of little children they might try to copy when they get older.

Through this policy, we will:

* + We will provide a smoke free environment
  + We will ensure that tobacco education is part of our PSHE curriculum.
  + We will adopt and support intervention to prevent the uptake of smoking amongst children and young people staff, parents/guardians and members of the wider community.
  + We will promote BE Well Tameside to adults and support them quitting smoking.
  + We will ensure that all staff promote healthy lifestyle and positive attitudes.
  + We will ensure staff have the knowledge and understanding of policies, procedures and agreed practice to support the implementation of the smoke free policy.
  + We will involve Governors, children and young people, Parents/carers and the other outside agencies as appropriate in the development of the policy and practise in relation to tobacco.
  + We will ensure this policy is applied when children are taken off site.

1. Legal framework
   1. This policy has due regard to legislation, including, but not limited to, the following:

* Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 197 Health Act 2006
* Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991
* Nicotine Inhaling Products (Age of Sale and Proxy Purchasing) Regulations 2015
* Equality Act 2010
  1. This policy also has due regard to guidance including, but not limited to, the following:
* Public Health England (2016) ‘Use of e-cigarettes in public places and workplaces’

1. Policy application
   1. The principles outlined in this policy apply to all staff, pupils, visitors, contractors and parents.
   2. The principles outlined in this policy also continue to apply whether or not ‘no smoking’ signs are displayed.
   3. All areas of the school premises, including outdoor areas, are designated smoke-free environments and, as such, all individuals are prohibited from smoking anywhere on the premises this includes the school gates.
2. E-cigarettes on the premises
   1. For the purpose of the policy, the process of using an e-cigarette is defined as vaping.
   2. The school recognises the use of e-cigarettes as having significant potential to reduce tobacco use, as well as the harmful effects it causes to smokers and those around them.
   3. Although e-cigarettes are not covered by the Health Act 2006, the school adopts a fully smoke-free environment, and recognises that use of e-cigarettes, whilst significantly safer for health than cigarettes, still pose some hazards, particularly for those with asthma and respiratory conditions who may be affected by the vapour.
   4. The school also recognises that e-cigarettes may create a nuisance for others in the production of vapour, particularly for non-users.
   5. The school does not consider the use of e-cigarettes to be professional behaviour and, therefore, individuals are not permitted to use e-cigarettes in the presence of others (unless in accordance with point 3.6), particularly pupils, whilst on the premises.
   6. Vaping is not permitted at any time in vehicles being used on behalf of the school,

e.g. school minibuses, where car mileage allowance is being claimed, and at times when pupils are present in the vehicle.

* 1. Vaping is not permitted in any personal vehicles on the school premises during school hours.
  2. Any individual witnessed vaping in personal vehicles as outlined above, or in vehicles used on behalf of the school, will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in [section 5](#_bookmark4) of this policy.
  3. The school does not allow vaping breaks at any times during the school day. If an individual wishes to use their e-cigarette, they are only permitted to do so during arranged break times, e.g. lunch time, and in accordance with the principles outlined above.
  4. It is illegal for any individual under the age of 18 to use an e-cigarette. Any pupil witnessed using an e-cigarette on the premises will face disciplinary action.
  5. Staff, visitors and contractors are prohibited from purchasing e-cigarettes for pupils and any other individuals under the age of 18 at the school, e.g. visitors.

1. Smoking on the premises
   1. Smoking is prohibited on the school premises at all times; there are no designated areas available on the school premises for smoking including outside the school gates.
   2. Staff, contractors, visitors and pupils are not permitted to smoke on the school premises during school hours; this is to reduce the risk of pupils, parents and other members of the school community witnessing the individual smoking, which may affect professional etiquette. This also includes outside the school gates at all times.
   3. Any individual, who is witnessed smoking on the premises during school hours, will be subject to disciplinary sanctions, as outlined in [section 5](#_bookmark4) of this policy.
   4. Smoking is not permitted at any time in vehicles being used on behalf of the school,

e.g. school minibuses, whether or not pupils are present, or car mileage allowance is being claimed, as smoke fumes may linger in the vehicle and affect the health of other passengers.

* 1. Smoking is not permitted in any personal vehicles on the school premises.
  2. Any individual witnessed smoking in personal vehicles as outlined above, or in vehicles used on behalf of the school, will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in [section 5](#_bookmark4) of this policy.
  3. The school does not allow smoking breaks at any times during the school day.
  4. It is illegal for any individual under the age of 18 to smoke. Any pupil witnessed using cigarettes on the premises or during school hours will face disciplinary action.
  5. Staff, visitors and contractors are prohibited from purchasing cigarettes for pupils and any other individuals under the age of 18 at the school, e.g. visitors.

1. Disciplinary sanctions
   1. If a member of staff breaches any of the guidelines in this policy, they will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the school’s Staff Discipline Policy.
   2. Staff may also be subject to a penalty fine and possible criminal prosecution depending on the nature of the breach.
   3. Visitors and contractors who breach the guidelines in this policy will be asked to leave the premises. Refusal to comply with this request may result in the school contacting the police.
   4. Pupils will be classed as smoking or vaping if:
      * They are seen smoking or vaping.
      * They are seen with a lit cigarette or e-cigarette in their hand.
      * They are found to have cigarettes, an e-cigarette or other smoking materials openly in their possession.
      * They are seen in the company of others who are smoking or vaping.
      * They are witnessed within the designated vaping area.
   5. Pupils caught smoking or vaping will receive a disciplinary sanction immediately in accordance with the school’s Behavioural Policy, and will be reported to the head teacher.
   6. The headteacher will notify the pupil’s parents of the incident and the disciplinary sanctions imposed on the pupil via a written letter.
   7. The pupil will attend a meeting with the school nurse for health advice as soon as possible.
   8. If pupils are continuously caught smoking or vaping, their parents will be invited to a meeting with the headteacher and school nurse, and further disciplinary sanctions may be imposed on the pupil in accordance with the Behavioural Policy.
2. Support
   1. The school aims to implement effective, supportive procedures for those who want to quit smoking, and improve the health of both smokers and non-smokers.
   2. If an employee wishes to stop smoking, they are able to request a meeting with the school nurse to discuss what help is available.
   3. Be Well Tameside is a free service to all residents and people who work in Tameside to help them quit smoking. They offer: 1.1 meetings, regular contact, practical tips, information of groups in your area, help to access other services. You can call them on 01617162000 or email at [bewelltameside@nhs.net](mailto:bewelltameside@nhs.net)
   4. The school regularly educates pupils about the effects of smoking, both through the requirements of the national curriculum, and through additional sessions, e.g. PSHE lessons, Health Week and assemblies.
   5. Pupils are encouraged to seek help from the school nurse if they would like further information about the effects of smoking, would like to quit smoking, or would like to know more about additional methods of support.
3. Monitoring and review
   1. This policy will be reviewed every two years by the headteacher; the next scheduled review date for this policy is November 2021
   2. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff, parents, and pupils if necessary.
   3. All staff, visitors and contractors are required to familiarise themselves with this policy as part of their induction periods, or upon their attendance at the school.