



## NO SMOKING POLICY

Upper Wharfedale School is a no smoking site. This policy document supports the North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Smoke-Free Workplace policy that sets out that smoking is prohibited in all NYCC owned and controlled buildings. This is in response to the smokefree legislation set out in the Health Act, passed by Parliament in 2006, that came into effect on the 1st July 2007, requiring smokefree environments in workplaces. The legislation ensures that workers, including those in schools, are protected from the risks to health from tobacco smoke and are guaranteed their right to work in a smokefree environment.

### Background supporting information on young people and smoking

- Smoking amongst young people is decreasing. National figures show in 2001 44% of young people aged 11-15 had tried smoking. This decreased to 25% in 2011.
- Nationally 10% of 11-15 year olds in 2001 were regular smokers. This decreased to 5% in 2011.
- In North Yorkshire the Every Child Matters – Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire completed by Year 8 and Year 10 students in 2012 showed 28% students had tried smoking. This is a decrease from 31% in 2010. 8% of students had smoked within the last week. This a reduction from 10% in 2010.
- For primary schools in North Yorkshire in 2012 it showed 4% of Year 6 pupils said they had tried smoking in the past or smoke now. This is a decrease from 5% in 2010.
- Young people who know other smokers are most likely to smoke themselves.
- Young people who live in a household where someone else smokes are more likely to smoke than those who do not live with smokers and find it harder to give up smoking.
- Young people who smoke regularly tend to see themselves as dependant on the habit. Nationally 67% of regular smokers reported they would find it difficult to not smoke for a week, and 73% would find it difficult to give up altogether.
- 11-16 year olds can show signs of addiction within four weeks of starting to smoke (smoking at least one cigarette a week).

### The law

The law made under The Health Act 2006 requires that enclosed or substantially enclosed public places and workplaces are smoke-free.

### Aims

- The school is to be a smoke free environment at all times to promote the health and welfare of all who work in, attend or visit the school. There is a wide range of evidence that shows the negative impact smoking / passive smoking has on people in terms of increased risk in a number of cancers, heart disease, diabetes and reducing their life span.

## Objectives

- Compliance with government legislation.
- Protect the staff, students, parents/carers, visitors and contractors from the effects of tobacco smoke.
- To encourage students to be resilient to the pressures on them to take up smoking and enable them to make informed, responsible choices not to smoke.
- Supportive and consistent links to the curriculum.
- Help smokers to quit.

## This policy applies to all people who use the facilities.

The whole school site is designated a no-smoking area. This includes out of school hours and out of term time. Everyone involved with the school community is expected to adhere to the No-Smoking Policy. Those groups include:

- Employees / trainee teachers
- Students
- Voluntary helpers
- Governors
- Visitors
- Parents/Carers
- Contractors working on site
- Individuals using the sports hall and swimming pool
- Individuals attending an outside letting
- Individuals attending a social event

## Students:

- Students are not allowed to smoke at school or whilst engaged in any off-site activity representing the school for example any educational visits, trips abroad and work experience.
- Students should not smoke whilst travelling to or from school when in Upper Wharfedale School uniform.
- Students should not be present when other students are smoking. Sanctions will be imposed for those associated with smoking on site

## Sanctions and support

If a student is found smoking either on site or within the school building, they will be placed in isolation for the rest of the day in the first instance. Repeated smoking on site may lead to exclusion.

A letter will be sent home to parents, and the offer of support from the school nurse will be made, to support smoking cessation.

Any cigarettes, matches, lighters, cigarette papers will be confiscated and parents/carers will be invited to collect them from the school office.

The student may also be advised to contact their GP for further support (see NRT below)

## Staff:

- Staff are recognised `role models` and as such are required not to smoke in sight of students. This will include visits, school excursions and include both teaching and non-teaching staff, on or near the school site.
- This policy will also apply to employees whilst exercising direct responsibility for students on off-site activities, e.g. school fixtures, school trips etc.

- When on a school trip abroad follow the school's no-smoking policy.
- Staff should not purchase cigarettes from duty free if accompanying a school trip.
- The school recognises that staff who smoke may need support either to give up smoking or help control their smoking. The school will make available to employees the NHS North Yorkshire Stop Smoking helpline number to get free advice and for information on the nearest Stop Smoking Service on 0300 303 1603. For staff finding it particularly difficult to adhere to this Smoking Policy, it may be appropriate to seek assistance from an Occupational Health Adviser.

### Searching and Confiscation

Headteachers and staff authorised by them have a statutory power to search students or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the student may have a prohibited item. Authorised members of staff have the power to search where a student refuses a reasonable request to, for example, turn out their pockets. The following guidelines will be followed in the unlikely event of a search taking place:

- Teachers have to have reasonable suspicion that the student has a prohibited item and the search will take place on school property or where the member of staff has lawful charge of the student, for example on school trips.
- The person searching must be the same sex as the student and it must be carried out in the presence of another member of staff. Where reasonably practicable they should also be the same sex as the student.
- The student may not be asked to remove any clothing other than outer clothing (clothing not touching skin or underwear).
- Possessions means any goods over which the student has or appears to have control – this includes desks, lockers and bags. Student's possessions can only be searched in the presence of the student and another member of staff.
- If a member of staff finds tobacco or cigarette papers they will retain them and they will not be returned to the student
- The school does not require the consent of a parent/carer to carry out a search nor do they need to inform parents when a search has been carried out.

### Visitors:

- The No-Smoking Policy applies to all visitors to the school including suppliers, supply or temporary staff and contractors.
- The policy applies all year round. This includes out of school hours and out of term time.

### Parents and Carers:

- Parents and carers must adhere to the No- Smoking policy and refrain from smoking on the school grounds.
- Parents and carers are discouraged from smoking just outside the school grounds.

### Events

- The school's No-Smoking Policy applies to all social events in school time and out of school hours/ term time.

### Roles and Responsibilities

#### Governors

The governing body has the responsibility to ensure a school has an up-to-date No-Smoking Policy that ensures the school complies with government legislation. The policy should also clearly reference any on-site stop smoking support that is available for students to access. The

governing body, in co-operation with the Head Teacher, is expected to involve families, students, health and other professionals to ensure the smoking curriculum addresses the needs of students, local issues and trends. The governing body will continue their involvement through regular evaluation of provision and policy.

### Headteacher

The Headteacher has responsibility for the day-to-day management of all aspects of the school's work, including teaching and learning. The Headteacher's responsibilities in respect of smoking are to:

- Work with governors to ensure compliance with the government legislation.
- Liaise with the PSHCE Co-ordinator to ensure the effective delivery of the smoking education within the curriculum is being monitored.
- Keep the governing body fully informed of provision, issues and progress around smoking.
- Act upon any concerns which may arise from students' smoking behaviours.
- Effective management of the school site limiting the places and opportunities for students to smoke through effective deployment of staff at break times and lunchtime.

### PSHCE Co-ordinator

The school has a co-ordinator for PSHCE who is responsible for all aspects of the subject including education on smoking. In respect of smoking, responsibilities are to:

- Ensure the implementation and quality of long term and medium term schemes of work for PSHCE that incorporates education on smoking.
- Ensure that all staff are confident in the skills to teach and discuss issues related to smoking.
- Consider the needs of all students, and to achieve this, recognise that the school might need to address some specific issues.
- Consult with students to inform provision around smoking.
- Access appropriate training.
- Monitor and advise on smoking curriculum organisation, planning and resource issues across the school.
- Ensure procedures for assessment, monitoring and evaluation are included.
- Liaise with any service provision to support aspects of smoking.
- Contribute to the review / updating of the No-Smoking Policy on a two year cycle or sooner if necessary.

### External agencies

Whilst the responsibility for organising and delivering most, if not all, of the smoking curriculum rests with the school, there may be times when an external contributor can add value and bring to the classroom additional experience, skills or knowledge that teachers may not always have.

### Providing Stop Smoking Support for Students - Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT):

NRT has been licensed for young people who are aged 12 or over. For these to be used in school they must be prescribed by the young person's GP, and the school must receive written confirmation of this. There are a range of NRT methods available, and the following NRTs are permitted in school on prescription:

- Lozenges
- Patches

The following are not permitted in school, even with prescription:

- Gum

- inhalators
- “e-cigarettes” or anything which mimics smoking

The above applies to all users of the school, although staff and visitors over the age of 18 do not need to have a prescription.

### **Confidentiality**

It is the responsibility of the school to support its students and to carry out its functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students. In fulfilling this duty they must have regard to guidance around safeguarding. Whilst students have the same rights to confidentiality as adults no student should be guaranteed absolute confidentiality. Staff will report any information or disclosure which raises concern that a child or children may be at risk of significant harm to the school's senior member of staff, with designated responsibility for Child Protection. The Designated person will then, in line with the School's Child Protection policy and the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board guidance and procedures, take action as appropriate. Students should be informed about the remit of confidentiality and that teachers cannot offer or guarantee students unconditional confidentiality.

**This policy will be reviewed every two years, or in response to new legislation**