

# Hope House School & Vacation Centre

Transforming the lives of children living on the Autistic Spectrum

## NO SMOKING POLICY

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Responsible Organisation: Hope House School  
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### Version 1

Signed:

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This policy has been read and signed on behalf  
of the Directors of Hope House School by

### Version Control Sheet

Version:	Date of issue:	Date of revision:	Used by:
1	June 2010	June 2012	Terri Westmoreland
2	June 2012	June 2014	Terri Westmoreland
3	June 2014	June 2016	Terri Westmoreland
4	June 2016		
5			
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## **Introduction**

At Hope House School, we take seriously our duty to promote children and young people's wellbeing and their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (Education and Inspection Act, 2006). We see our commitment to creating a smoke free environment and developing pupil's knowledge, attitudes and skills in decision making around smoking, as part of our work on keeping children and young people safe around drugs and managing risk.

## **Definition**

A drug is any substance which affects how a person thinks, feels or behaves (World Health Organisation). The term includes medicinal, non-medicinal, legal and illegal drugs. Therefore, drug refers to nicotine as well as alcohol, volatile substances, medicines, illegal drugs and psychoactive substances (legal highs).

## **Aim**

To ensure a whole-school approach to tobacco in order to protect all members of the school community from the harms of second-hand smoke and to prevent the uptake of, and reduce the prevalence of, smoking across the school community.

## **Objectives**

To provide a smoke free school environment for the whole school community.

To ensure that tobacco education is part of the school's progressive entitlement curriculum of drug education / PSHE (including the health effects, legal, economic and social aspects of tobacco use).

To promote the 'proud to be smoke free' message to all our children /young people.

To ensure that all staff promote positive attitudes and behaviour in relation to tobacco.

To ensure that staff have the knowledge and understanding of policies, procedures and agreed practice to support the implementation of the Smoke Free Policy.

To adopt and support interventions that aim to prevent the uptake of smoking amongst pupils, staff, parents/carers and members of the wider school community.

To involve the wider school community in interventions to prevent the uptake of smoking in children and young people, by providing stop smoking groups/support for parents and carers and through helping them to talk to their children about tobacco and other risk taking behaviours.

To provide assistance for pupils, staff and other members of the school community who smoke and wish to stop.

To ensure that the School's Smoke Free Policy is applied when children / young people are taken off site.

### **Rationale**

All members of the school community have the right to work and learn in a smoke free environment. Exposure to second hand smoke (passive smoking) increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other illnesses. Exposure to role models who smoke also normalises smoking behaviour, which can have a significant negative impact on the delivery of the smoke free message.

Smoking remains the largest preventable cause of death and illness in England, responsible for over 80,000 deaths per year. It kills half of all long term users. Two thirds of all new smokers in England are young people under the age of 18. Those who start smoking before the age of 16 are twice as likely to continue to smoke compared to those who begin later in life, and are more likely to be heavier smokers (Muller 2007). The earlier children become regular smokers, the greater their risk of developing life-threatening conditions, such as lung cancer or heart disease if they continue smoking into adulthood.

*Smoke free school sites and non-smoking staff provide positive role models for children and young people and contribute to the development of a health-promoting school*

However to enable staff who do smoke to deal with their addiction the use of e - Cigarettes will be allowed, to be used in the staff room (as long as no colleague objects to this). This can only take place on the 20 minute break allowed each day. If however, further research proves that e - cigarettes are harmful the Policy will be reviewed.

The offer of the use of these devices is in the spirit of compromise, as the Directors know how difficult it can be to give up smoking. We hope that staff who smoke will take this as it is offered, as a gesture of goodwill, but this Policy will be strenuously up held at all times.

### **Providing a smoke free environment (Procedure)**

This Policy applies to students, staff, and parents/carers, members of the public, contractors or others working in or using the School premises or vehicles used to transport students.

Staff at Hope House School and Vacation Centre wear the uniform of the school and are representatives of the charity. Smoking is an activity which is counter to the values, attitudes and culture which we wish to promote at Hope House School and Vacation Centre. Smoking is not permitted by any uniformed member of staff in any part of the school's premises and grounds including the entrance area to the school, on land adjacent to the School building (e.g. car parks, garden areas, walkways, verges etc.)

This Policy will apply equally to future premises at the construction stage of any new building and refurbishment or relocation project.

There are no designated smoking areas provided within the School buildings or grounds, nor outside the school gate or on any land within sight of the school or vacation centre. Members of staff are not permitted while at work and /or wearing uniform to smoke in these areas.

The Smoke Free Policy applies to all events / activities held in the School including before and after school sessions, any meetings organised which are attended by school employees as part of their work and/or visitors to such meetings/events.

Smoking is not permitted in any school owned/hired/leased vehicles, as well as private vehicles when used for carrying students or staff on school business.

**Please note: this is a statutory requirement.** Schools also have a duty to reinforce the smoking legislation on buses used for pupil transport.

This Policy applies when students are taken off site on school excursions/ visits/trips. Staff and accompanying helpers will be reminded that smoking is not permitted when on duty / looking after students.

Tobacco education is part of the School's progressive entitlement curriculum of drug education / PSHE (including the health effects, legal, economic and social aspects of tobacco use) which may be delivered across the curriculum.

### **Other Related Policies /Guidance**

Within the School this Policy is linked to/consistent with:

PSHE Policy /Healthy and Wellbeing Strategy

Health and Safety Policy

Behaviour Policy

Disciplinary Policy

### **Responding to smoking related incidents**

The following procedures will apply when there is non-compliance with the Smoke Free Policy.

### **Staff**

The Schools Disciplinary Procedure will be followed for members of staff who do not comply with the School's Smoke Free Policy.

The staff member will be offered support to help them quit smoking through linking them with appropriate support in the community.