



Making the most of everyone.

Smoke Free Policy

Policy Adopted on 10th June 2019

Policy Reviewed June 2023

Policy Valid until June 2025

Signed:

(Chair of Governors)

Ysgol Penmorfa

Smoke Free Policy

Introduction

As a learning establishment committed to the education of children from 3-11 we recognise the important connection between a healthy diet, physical activity and a smoke free environment, which allows pupils to learn effectively and achieve high standards in school. We also recognise the role school can play, as part of the larger community, to promote family health. The educational mission is to improve the health of the entire community by encouraging pupils to eat healthily, participate in physical activity and be educated to the effects of tobacco use.

Through teaching pupils, we aim to establish and maintain life-long healthy eating habits. This policy contributes towards the National Healthy School Standard (DfES 2005) and reflects The Health Act 2006 which places restrictions on smoking within the workplace including e cigarettes.

We think that this is important because smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in the UK. Second hand smoke - 'breathing other peoples' tobacco smoke' causes at least 1,000 people to die a year. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, heart disease and cause the onset of asthma, chest and ear infections and cot death in children. It also leads to over 50 children being admitted to hospital per day. 80% of smokers take up the habit as teenagers with 450 children starting smoking every day. We believe that everyone has the right to a smoke-free environment. The policy on no-smoking at school forms part of the school's Health and Safety Policy arrangements.

Aims

- To be a smoke free school so that we provide a smoke-free environment for everyone.
- To improve the understanding of the pupils through education so that they are fully informed to make their own choices for a healthy life style.
- To provide pupils with a consistent message regarding tobacco and its impact on health.
- To provide a positive role model for children and contribute to the development of a health-promoting school.

Responsibilities

- The whole school approach will reflect the material recommended by the Government's Department for Health (DH) & Department for Education and Skills (DFES) and Denbighshire's Healthy and Wellbeing Group.
- A strategic approach is required in order to give pupils consistent and accurate messages about healthier lifestyles, to help them to understand the effect of particular behaviours on health and encourage them to take

responsibility for their own health. This can be achieved through a whole school approach, which engages our community in promoting consistent messages about healthier eating and drinking throughout the school day.

- The school council will provide opportunities to develop understanding about tobacco and monitor the pupils' responses.
- Parents will be involved in developing their understanding and contributing their ideas and skills by means of the school's newsletter, questionnaires and after school meetings.
- Findings will be reported upon through the governors and parents newsletters.

Smoke-Free School Premises

Smoking of cigarettes and e-cigarettes will NOT be permitted in any part of the school's premises, including Playmates/after school club, school field, kitchen, car park areas or within proximity to any entrance area to the school.

Smoking of cigarettes or e-cigarettes is not permitted by anyone accompanying pupils on school visits.

Smoke-free school sites and non-smoking staff provide positive role models for pupils and contribute to the development of a health-promoting school. This includes the use of e-cigarettes (electronic cigarettes / vaping) due to the following reasons:

- E-cigarettes although now regulated, debates on the benefits and risks of e-cigarettes, particularly regarding their safety and health implications, are ongoing and will continue as more evidence gradually becomes available.
- E-cigarettes look like normal cigarettes. There are potential regulatory issues around enforcing cigarette bans.
- There are evidence based Nicotine Replacement Therapy products available on prescription if your staff member is trying to quit smoking or having difficulty with nicotine cravings during work hours.

There will be NO designated smoking areas provided within the school premises.

This policy applies to employees, parents and visitors, members of the public, contractors and others working or using the school's premises or vehicles. This policy will be clearly advertised and visitors to the school will be informed of it. The school's disciplinary procedure will apply for dealing with staff and pupils who do not comply with the Smoke-Free Status at school.

Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to adhere to the smoke-free status.

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

Vehicles

We ask Staff and visitors to refrain from smoking in their own vehicles when parked on the school premises.

Any adult acting on behalf of the school transporting pupils to and from school must refrain from smoking. Also, all adults carrying passengers on school business must refrain from smoking.

Assistance for those who smoke

We recognise the importance of being smoke-free and therefore adhere to the principle that second hand smoke is damaging to health. In addition, we also stand by the notion that smoking is an addictive behaviour. We pledge that we are willing to be very supportive to anyone who wishes to give up smoking by offering stop smoking information to anyone who is interested.

Publicity

Suitable posters and No Smoking signs will be displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message which supports a smoke-free working environment.

Appointments

This school is a Smoke-Free school and this should be made clear within all its appointments procedures, staff handbooks and school prospectus.

Teaching and Learning

Tobacco education will form part of the PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education) programme, where consistent messages will be provided to pupils about the damaging effects of smoking on health. Also linked to the Drug Education Policy, DfES Guidance 2004.

Inclusion

Equal opportunities

The Smoke Free School Policy should be accessible to all pupils regardless of ability, race, social class or gender. Efforts are made to ensure that there is a balance of gender within a collaborative situation. There are many compositions used for group work, such as friendship, gender and ability.

All children are encouraged to take part in discussions and they are assured that others will listen to their point of view.

Monitoring

Any member of staff or public smoking will be made aware of the signage and will be asked to stop. It will be deemed a disciplinary action if staff smoke on the premises and action will be taken using the disciplinary policy.

Parents and visitors will be asked to leave the premises.