



Statement of Policy

One of the County Council's corporate objectives is to improve health and wellbeing. Lancashire County Council now encompasses Public Health, and one of the key Public Health priorities is to support people to stop smoking. The County Council is committed to reducing rates of smoking and promoting a smoke free lifestyle to all employees, contractors and visitors. The governing body of Northfold C.P. School shares the same belief and has decided to adopt the policy set out below.

The policy applies to all employees of the school and other workers including casual workers, agency workers and volunteers. The policy also applies to visitors and contractors.

The safety of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) has not been fully clinically tested and therefore the World Health Organisation advises that their use should be prohibited anywhere that the use of conventional cigarettes is banned. In view of this, the policy applies to both tobacco cigarettes and e-cigarettes.

- Smoking is not allowed at any time when employees (or workers) are at work;
- Smoking is not permitted when driving whilst on duty or travelling to and from meetings for school business.
- Smoking is banned in the school's premises and grounds and in any school vehicle used for transporting pupils, employees, parents and visitors;
- Smoking is not allowed by employees or others on land owned or controlled by the County Council or the school e.g., car parks, playing fields, playgrounds. This applies whilst on duty and off duty (for example the policy applies to someone smoking in their car on a school or council-controlled car park at breaks or lunchtimes);
- Smoking is not permitted near any windows or entrances to school or council buildings at any time;
- Smoking breaks are not permitted during working time;
- Visitors and governors are reminded that the school in conjunction with the County Council is smoke-free and they are requested not to smoke near any access point, doorway or window fronting onto public roads or land.
- This smoke-free policy will be brought to the attention of partnership organisations, businesses providing services and other stakeholders who may interact with the school's employees and students and their co-operation in implementing both the spirit and letter of the policy will be requested and accepted as part of the partnership or working arrangements;
- Any special arrangements in place with regard to employees or private individuals living in school or council owned or controlled residential establishments must comply with the legislation and guidance from the appropriate regulatory bodies. These arrangements must be updated in accordance with any changes to legislation or guidance;
- All school and council owned or controlled buildings and vehicles must display the appropriate smoke-free signage;
- Enforcement of the school's policy is by management action and disciplinary procedures.

Implementation

The governing body should ensure that appropriate arrangements exist for implementing the policy within their school and/or areas of responsibility.

Information

Quitting cigarettes, shisha and e-cigarettes completely and being addiction-free is the best way to protect health. With support from a local stop smoking service, tobacco and nicotine users are four times more likely to quit than going it alone. They can help with one to one support and access to licensed medicines that can be used to help to beat the cravings.

Information is available on the NHS choices website and from local district councils. For help to quit smoking, shisha and e-cigarettes, call your local service:

- North Lancashire – 01524 845145
- Central, East and West Lancashire – 0800 328 6297

Breaches of the Policy

Headteachers need to take action if an employee or worker smokes in contravention of this policy. A record of any action should be recorded. Breaches of this policy by school staff may lead to disciplinary action being taken. Visitors smoking will be asked to leave the school grounds.

Monitoring of the Policy

The operation of the policy will be monitored and reviewed as required.

Next review September 2026.