

Northstowe Secondary College

No Smoking e-cigarette Policy

Version Number:	FINAL_V1
Applicable To:	Northstowe Secondary College
Approved by Governors On:	March 2024
Review Cycle:	Biennial
Date of Next Review:	March 2026

I Purpose

This policy has been produced in response to the requirement to implement the Health Act 2006 and its associated regulations regarding the provision of a smoke free environment on the premises of Northstowe Secondary College.

The Academy Council recognises that it has an obligation and duty to protect all employees, students, contractors and visitors from exposure to second hand smoke and is committed to fully complying with the legislation in place from 1 July 2007.

In addition, this policy is informed by advice from Public Health England regarding the use of e-cigarettes in public places and workplaces, July 2016.

The Academy Council notes that failure to display 'No Smoking' signs and/or failing to take adequate steps to prevent smoking in a smoke free place are both criminal offences which could lead to substantial fines on the Academy.

2 Application

- Smoking will be prohibited at all locations within the boundaries of the Academy site including car parks and entrance roads.
- Smoking will be prohibited at all times.
- This prohibition will apply to anyone entering the site including all employees, students, contractors and visitors. This includes users of the Sports Centre who use part of the site for access and/or parking and users of the field for out of hours events.
- Smoking will be prohibited in any vehicle owned by, or contracted to, the Academy for any purpose.
- Appropriate signage will be displayed at all entrances to the site, in vehicles used by the Academy and at appropriate locations around the site.
- No provision for smokers will be made on the Academy site.
- Responsibility for the implementation of this policy and its enforcement will be delegated to the Headteacher of the Academy, who has the authority to further delegate responsibility for elements of this policy as appropriate. All staff and students are obliged to adhere to the implementation of this policy. The Headteacher will ensure that all existing staff and students are aware of their role in implementing and monitoring this policy and will ensure all new entrants to the Academy are given a copy of this policy.
- All staff and students are to be made aware of this policy and that non-compliance will be seen as a serious disciplinary matter which will be addressed using existing disciplinary procedures.
- All contractors will be responsible for the compliance of its workforce whilst on the Academy site.
- The Academy will take all reasonable steps to ensure full compliance with this policy. Where any other person is found not to comply with this policy, they will be asked to desist or to leave the site. If they refuse to do so, police involvement will be requested.

- The Academy will offer advice and support to staff and students who wish to give up smoking.

3 E-cigarettes

E-cigarette use, known as vaping, is not covered by smoke free legislation; E-cigarettes do not burn tobacco and do not create smoke. The 2015 prohibition on selling e-cigarettes to under-18s, and on adults buying them on behalf of under-18s, provides protection for children and young people and as such we take our lead from this aspect of law.

The main concerns surrounding e-cigarettes focus on their uptake by young people, their potential to renormalise smoking safety for users and bystanders. Concerns regarding e-cigarette use in public places include the possible reversal of advances in clean air achieved by banning smoking in public places, and a potential normalisation of nicotine addiction.

Following guidance set out by Public Health England, July 2016, whereby schools are advised to treat e-cigarettes in the same way as other age restricted products we prohibit them onsite, in the same way as we prohibit smoking.

This policy serves to protect all site users from potentially harmful activity and until guidance dictates differently, this is our stance on the use of e-cigarettes.

SLT

Leadership

This policy will next be reviewed in March 2026