



Smoke & Vape Free School Policy

Smoke & Vape Free School Policy (Inc EYFS)

Policy Review Date: July 2025

Reviewed By: A Evans, SLT & Board of Governors

Next Review: July 2026 (or following incident, legislation or interim guidance)

September 2025 Reviewed & ratified by:

Headteacher: Mrs J Callaway

Chair of Governors: Dr Catherine Kidd :

This policy is available on the school website and upon request.

Updates and Amendments to Policy

Date	Section Heading	Update Details	Page N°
Apr 2018		Reviewed	
Apr 2019		Reviewed	
Feb 2021	Section 2 Responsibilities	Updated school responsibilities – highlighted	4
	Section 2 Aim	Updated aims of the policy – highlighted	4
	Section 6 Curriculum	New section added – highlighted	6
	Section 7 Procedures for Failure to Adhere to Policy	Section re-numbered	6
	Section 8 Support Available	Section re-numbered	6
	Section 9 Reviewer and Governing Body Sign-Off	Section re-numbered	6
May 2022		Reviewed	
Sep 2025		Updates – highlighted in BLUE	

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Section 1 Policy Statement

This policy has been developed and has due regard to legislation and guidance including, but not limited to:

Health & Safety at Work Act 1974; Health Act 2006; Children & Young Person (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991; Nicotine Inhaling Products (Age of Sale & Proxy Purchasing) Regulations 2015; Equality Act 2010 and Public Health England 2016 (Use of E-cigarettes in Public Places & Workplaces).

Section 2 Responsibilities

Avalon School regards itself as a health promoting school. Avalon School recognises that its staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion. As a school we believe it is our responsibility to promote a smoke and vape free school policy and to give everyone the right to breathe clean air and to avoid the dangers of second-hand smoke.

Second-hand smoking – breathing in other people’s smoke – has now been shown to cause lung cancer and heart disease in non-smokers, as well as many other illnesses and minor conditions. It has a negative effect on those people who suffer from conditions such as asthma.

Avalon School acknowledges that breathing in other people’s tobacco smoke is both a public health hazard and a welfare issue. It is also noted that electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) mimic the effects of real cigarettes. Experts say it is not yet known what harm the tobacco-free devices could inflict and that their contents could be damaging young people's health. There is considerable evidence regarding the impact of smoking behaviour on children.

All staff will be informed of this policy, which will become part of their contract of employment. Parents will be informed of this policy and it will be posted on the school website. Notices and signs will be posted in relevant places throughout the school premises.

Avalon School aim to provide a safe working and learning environment for both children, staff, parents and visitors, as such the school supports a smoke and vape free school policy which reinforces the messages with the PSHCEE curriculum and health initiatives in the wider community.

Section 3 Rationale

- Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill-health in our society.
- Passive smoking (breathing other people’s tobacco smoke) is also potentially fatal. It has been shown to cause lung cancer, as well as many other illnesses, in non-smokers.
- Smoking is a health and safety issue for all adults who use the school, staff, parents and visitors.
- Everyone has a right to breathe clean air, and non-smokers are in the majority.
- Schools have a major role to play working towards non-smoking and vaping being seen as the norm in society.
- Children need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking/vaping role models if they are to recognise no smoking or vaping as the norm.

Section 4

Aims

The aims of this policy are:

- To provide a smoke and vaping free environment both within the school building and grounds that protects the health of the whole school community and visitors to the school.
- To promote a healthy lifestyle and enable children to make responsible healthy choices in relation to smoking and this is reflected within the school curriculum.
- To equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressure to smoke, either from peer groups or from society in general.
- To protect non-smokers from the adverse health effect of environmental tobacco smoke and e-cigarette vapours in the workplace.
- To demonstrate Avalon School's commitment to promoting the health of pupils and staff.
- To provide information and advice for those who wish to stop smoking.
- To comply with Health & Safety Legislation and Employment Law.

Section 5

Smoking & Vaping Restrictions

Smoking or vaping is **NOT** permitted in any part of the school premises. There are no facilities in the school will be provided although support will be given to smokers/vapers to assist them to stop if they require it. The smoking/vaping restrictions will apply to all school hired/leased vehicles. Staff are asked to refrain from smoking/vaping in their own vehicles when on school business or when carrying passengers (children and adults) of Avalon School.

5.1 Staff

All staff including **cleaners**, peripatetic, extra-curricular club leaders and sports coaches may not smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes while on school premises and grounds.

5.2 Pupils

Pupils may not smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes while on school premises and grounds or while engaged in school related activities outside the school.

5.3 Parents

Parents may not smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes while on school premises and grounds. Parents will be informed of this restriction during the pupil induction process, in intermittent reminders on the newsletter and by being signposted to this policy on the school website.

5.4 Visitors

The smoke and vape free school policy applies to all visitors to the school, for example parents, suppliers, supply or temporary staff, contractors, sports coaches etc. The following arrangements have been made for informing visitors of the policy's existence:

Clearly worded notice available to all visitors on signing in located in the school office.

Staff members will inform visitors of the policy when necessary.

5.5 School Related Activities

The prohibition of smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes will apply during related school activities undertaken outside school premises, eg educational visits.

5.6 School Premises Used Outside of Normal Operating Hours

When school premises are used for purposes other than school related activities the school smoke and vape free school policy will still remain in operation.

Section 6 Curriculum

The dangers of smoking are addressed in the PSCHEE curriculum. As well as teaching children about the effects that smoking has on the body, as a school we will engage the children in discussions about the reasons why people start to smoke and what they themselves should do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes.

Teachers will lead all such discussions in a sensitive manner. Encouraging the children to explore the views of others and to reflect on their own personal thoughts regarding smoking. Children will be informed that it is illegal for cigarettes (including e-cigarettes) to people under the age of 16. Avalon School's aim is for children to refrain from smoking not only for this reason but also because they believe that smoking is a wrong lifestyle choice.

Section 7 Procedure for Failure to Adhere to Policy

If staff are found smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes on school premises, grounds or school related activities this will be deemed to be committing an act of gross misconduct and will be subject to disciplinary action.

If parents or visitors are found smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes on school premises or grounds, they will be required to leave the premises or grounds immediately and may not be permitted to return. Parents assisting on school activities and educational visits are subject to the same smoke and vape free school policy as staff.

Section 8 Signage

Suitable NO Smoking & Vaping Signs are displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message, which supports a smoke and vape free environment for all

Section 9 Support Available

Staff, parents and visitors wishing to stop smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes can seek support and advice from:

- NHS Stop Smoking Services ([NHS Stop Smoking](#))
- NHS Stop Vaping Information ([NHS Stop Vaping](#))
- Smokefree Liverpool – 0151 374 2535, text QUIT1 to 61825
- Wirral Stop Smoking Service – 0151 541 5656, text ABL to 60777
- GP Surgeries

Section 10
Review

The Governors will monitor and review the smoke & vape free school policy regularly and will take into consideration any changes in legislation and procedures and practices as necessary.