

**ST CUTHBERT MAYNE SCHOOL**  
**Joint Catholic and Church of England 11-18 Comprehensive School**  
**Dioceses of Plymouth and Exeter**



**St Cuthbert Mayne School**  
**Smoke Free Policy**

**Approved by Resources Committee: March 2024**

**Reviewed by Full Governing Body: March 2024**

**Next Review Date: March 2025**

**This policy has been informed by the UK School smoking policy and is denoted as good practice. It has been developed through a full consultation process with pupils, staff, parents and Management Committee.**

This policy applies to smoking on the school grounds (both indoor and outdoor) and in vehicles used for work purposes. It applies to all substances that can be smoked, including cigarettes, herbal cigarettes, cigars, and also to vapers.

### **Responsibilities**

St Cuthbert Mayne regards itself as a health-promoting school. It recognises that the school's staff act as role-models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion.

Second hand smoking – breathing in other people's smoke, has now been shown to cause lung cancer & heart disease in non-smokers, as well as many other illnesses & minor conditions.

The school acknowledges that breathing in other people's tobacco smoke is both a public health hazard and welfare issue. Therefore, we wish to move towards an agreed smoke free school policy.

The Health Act 2006 introduced legislation to make all enclosed workplaces and public places smoke free from 1 July 2007. The smoke free school policy enhances this legislation by incorporating the grounds of the school as well as the buildings. The school is looking to gain the Workplace Wellbeing Charter Award and a smoke-free site is one component of the charter.

### **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 the right to breathe clean air, and non-smokers are in the majority.

Schools have a major role to play in working towards non-smoking being seen as the norm in society.

Children need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models within the school.

## **Aims and Objectives:**

- to protect non-smokers from the adverse health effects of environmental tobacco smoke in the workplace
- to demonstrate the school's commitment to promoting the health of pupils and staff
- to raise awareness of the need to formally address tobacco issues within the whole school approach
- to provide information and advice for those who wish to stop smoking/vaping (pupils are taught the health implications of smoking and vaping, and further follow up with support and advice on stopping smoking is accessed through the School Health Service.)

## **Restrictions on smoking**

### **Staff**

All staff - teaching, peripatetic, support and non-teaching and pupils may not smoke or vape while on school premises, outside gates to the premises or in view of pupils. Staff who wish to smoke or vape should do so within their designated breaks.

### **Pupils**

The present rules forbid smoking or vaping while on school premises and while engaged in school related activities outside the school, including when travelling to and from school.

Sixth form students may not smoke or vape outside the school gates, or within sight of the school premises.

### **Parents**

Parents may not smoke or vape while on school premises. Letters are sent home to parents informing them of the policy. Information on our Smoke Free School Policy is clearly stated on the St Cuthbert Mayne website. The policy is available in the Headteacher's office, the general office and a copy is available on request.

### **Visitors**

The smoking policy applies to all visitors to the school - for example, parents, suppliers, supply or temporary staff, contractors and other agencies.

- Staff members will inform visitors of the policy when necessary.

## **Educational and Off-Site Visits:**

The prohibition of smoking and vaping will apply during related school activities undertaken outside school premises, e.g. Educational Visits. The prohibition of smoking and vaping applies to all pupils and anyone accompanying them on all off-site visits.

When school premises are used for purposes other than school related activities the school smoking policy will still remain in operation.

## **PROCEDURES**

### **Implementing and monitoring:**

- Members of staff will be made aware of the Policy, which will be part of their contract of employment. If a member of staff chooses to smoke or vape on the school premises and grounds, a verbal reminder will be issued. On a second occasion, they will be given a written warning and advised that they may face disciplinary proceedings if they choose not to comply with the Smoke Free School Policy.
- Parents will be advised that if their child brings smoking materials to school, they will be confiscated and not returned to the pupil. Parents are advised that if they wish the materials to be returned, they must collect them from the Main Reception. If they are not collected by a responsible adult within 3 days, all materials will be destroyed.
- Pupils are advised that if they bring smoking materials to school, these will be confiscated and their parent/carer will have to collect the materials if they want them returned from the Main Reception. If the parent/carer chooses not to collect the materials, they will be destroyed. Pupils are advised that if they are caught smoking or vaping on school premises or out of school on educational visits, or on the journey to and from school, their smoking materials will be confiscated and sanctions put in place.
- Members of staff shall inform school visitors of the Policy. If a visitor is not complying with the policy, they will be requested to comply with the policy or to leave the site.

Every member of the school community is expected to take responsibility for the implementation of this policy.

Pupils will receive support and advice on smoking/vaping cessation from pastoral staff, and may be referred to the School Health Service.

Staff looking for support can request this through the Wellbeing team, who will also provide information through noticeboards and the blog.

Stop Smoking support is available by contacting:

- Torbay Healthy Lifestyles Stop Smoking Service 01803 299160
- NHS Smokefree Helpline 0300 123 1044

The Policy will be reviewed and, if appropriate, revised annually to ensure that it continues to meet the general principle.

### **Consultation:**

This policy has been developed and agreed in consultation with the school Governors, Senior Management Team, Staff Wellbeing group, and is open to feedback from Parents and Pupils.