



No Smoking Policy

Aim:

At *St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School* all members of our School community are valued and the School regards itself as a health-promoting organisation. The School recognises that its staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion. The behaviour of pupils also influences others in our school community. *St Bernadette School* recognises the dangers of smoking and passive smoking as well as the difficulties faced by long-term smokers.

This policy:

- Protects the staff, children, young people and visitors
- Acknowledges the educational role of the organisation in discouraging children and young people from starting to smoke; and
- Supports those people who would like to stop smoking
- Applies to everyone who comes onto the school site
- Complies with the enforcement of the *Smokefree Law of 1 July 2007* [Health Act 2006].

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. Children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of second hand smoke.
- Everyone has the right to breathe clean air.
- 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.

No Smoking Policy:

In order to seek a balance between the interests of all concerned and to ensure the health and safety of its Staff and Pupils, *St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School* operates the following policy on smoking.

1. No smoking in any form is permitted on the school site.
2. All smokers are requested not to smoke immediately outside the School.
3. Employees are permitted to smoke off-site during official rest breaks only. Pupils are



not permitted to leave the site to smoke.

4. In the unlikely event of a member of staff not respecting the policy, the Headteacher will attempt to resolve the situation informally in the first instance.
5. Pupils caught smoking on the School site will have their cigarettes and lighters confiscated and destroyed. Parents will be contacted and a punishment issued in accordance with the School's disciplinary policy and procedure.
6. Ultimately, in order to ensure the correct operation of this policy and to safeguard the health and safety of all members of the school community repeated breaches of the policy will be regarded as a serious breach of discipline and will be dealt with accordingly.

From 1 July 2007, it is an offence for anyone to smoke in virtually all enclosed and substantially enclosed public places and work places. There are penalties and fines for breaking the '*Smokefree Law*'.

Support:

St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School encourages all smokers to seek advice and support in stopping smoking and can offer practical help to those who wish to do so. Please speak to your line manager, the Headteacher or the School Nurse if you would like further information.

This statement of policy is to be read in conjunction with:

- The School – *Substance Misuse Policy*
- The School – *Health, Safety & Welfare Policy*
- The School – *Facilities Lettings Policy*
- The School – *Good Order & Behaviour Policy*

[End]

[Reviewer Responsibility Finance & Premises Committee]