



Croft Church of England Primary School

Smoke and Vape Free Policy

(Based on Kick Ash Model)

Written by	Simon Robson
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Signed – Head teacher	<i>Simon Robson</i>
Signed - Chair of Governors	<i>Alison Russell</i>

Introduction

At our school, we take seriously our duty to promote children and young people's wellbeing and their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (Education and Inspection Act, 2006). We see our commitment to creating a smoke free environment and developing pupils' knowledge, attitudes and skills in decision making around smoking as part of our work on keeping children and young people safe around drugs and managing risk. Accordingly, this Policy complements our school's Drug Education Policy.

Definition

A drug is any substance which affects how a person thinks, feels or behaves (World Health Organisation). The term includes medicinal, non-medicinal, legal and illegal drugs. Therefore drug refers to nicotine as well as alcohol, volatile substances, medicines, illegal drugs and psychoactive substances (legal highs).

Aim

To ensure a whole-school approach to tobacco and vaping in order to protect all members of the school community from the harms of second-hand smoke and to prevent the uptake of, and reduce the prevalence of, smoking and vaping across the school community.

Objectives

- To provide a smoke and vape free school environment for the whole school community.
- To ensure that tobacco education is part of the school's progressive entitlement curriculum of drug education / PSHE (including the health effects, legal, economic and social aspects of tobacco use).
- To promote the Kick Ash 'proud to be smoke free' message to all our children /young people.
- To ensure that all staff promote positive attitudes and behaviour in relation to tobacco and vaping.
- To ensure that staff have the knowledge and understanding of policies, procedures and agreed practice to support the implementation of the Smoke and Vape Free Policy.
- To involve all staff, governors, pupils, parents/carers and members of the wider school community including outside agencies as appropriate, in the development of policy and practice in relation to tobacco.
- To adopt and support interventions that aim to prevent the uptake of smoking and vaping amongst pupils, staff, parents/carers and members of the wider school community.
- To ensure that the School's Smoke and Vape Free Policy is applied when children / young people are taken off site.

Rationale

All members of the school community have the right to work and learn in a smoke free environment. Exposure to second hand smoke (passive smoking) increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other illnesses. Exposure to role models who smoke also normalises smoking behaviour, which can have a significant negative impact on the delivery of the smokefree message.

Smoking remains the largest preventable cause of death and illness in England, responsible for over 80,000 deaths per year. It kills half of all long term users. Two thirds of all new smokers in England are young

people under the age of 18. Those who start smoking before the age of 16 are twice as likely to continue to smoke compared to those who begin later in life, and are more likely to be heavier smokers (Muller 2007). The earlier children become regular smokers, the greater their risk of developing life-threatening conditions, such as lung cancer or heart disease if they continue smoking into adulthood.

Smoke and vape free school sites and non-smoking staff provide positive role models for children and young people and contribute to the development of a health-promoting school (School Smoke Free Policy Template UK).

This includes the use of e-cigarettes (electronic cigarettes) due to the following reasons:

1. E-cigarettes are not yet regulated and we are still unsure about the safety of the product. They are not due for medical regulation until 2016.
2. E-cigarettes look like normal cigarettes. There are potential regulatory issues around enforcing cigarette bans.

Providing a smokefree environment (Procedure)

- This Policy applies to students, staff, parents/carers, members of the public, contractors or others working / using the School premises or vehicles and all vehicles used to transport students.
- Smoking or vaping is not permitted in any part of the school's premises and grounds including the entrance area to the school, on land adjacent to the school building (e.g. car parks, garden areas, walkways, playgrounds, playing fields etc.). This Policy will apply equally to future premises at the construction stage of any new building and refurbishment project.
- There are no designated smoking or vaping areas provided within the School buildings or grounds.
- The Smoke and Vape Free Policy applies to all events / activities held in the School including before and after school sessions, any meetings organised which are attended by school employees as part of their work and/or visitors to such meetings/events.
- Suitable posters, displays and statutory no smoking signage will be displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message which supports a smokefree working environment.
- Smoking and vaping is not permitted in any school hired vehicles, as well as private vehicles when used for carrying students or staff on school business. **Please note: this is a statutory requirement.** Schools also have a duty to reinforce the smoking legislation on buses used for pupil transport.
- This Policy applies when students are taken off site on school excursions/ visits/trips. Staff and accompanying helpers will be reminded that smoking and vaping is not permitted when on duty / looking after students.

Smoking prevention activities (Procedure)

Students

- Pupils are not permitted to smoke or vape when in uniform or when representing the School in any capacity. This includes all tobacco products and electronic (e) cigarettes.

- Employees are not permitted to smoke anywhere on school premises. Employees who do smoke will be asked to ensure they cannot be seen smoking by pupils (even if it is off the school grounds).
- Tobacco education is part of the School's progressive entitlement curriculum of drug education / PSHE (including the health effects, legal, economic and social aspects of tobacco use) which may be delivered across the curriculum.
- The School supports tobacco education through the transition phase from primary to secondary school through engagement in programmes such as Kick Ash.
- Parents/carers are encouraged and supported to be actively involved in their child's drug/tobacco education through home /school activities, drug education evenings etc.

Staff

- Training on drugs including tobacco is available for all teaching staff as appropriate as well as pastoral staff and those involved in smoking prevention work including: the Head teacher, Teachers, school governors, pastoral staff.

Other Related Policies /Guidance

Within the School this Policy is linked to/consistent with:

- Drug Education Policy
- PSHE Policy /Healthy and Wellbeing Strategy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Educational Visits Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- Equality /Diversity Policy
- Staff Continuing Professional Development Policy
- Disciplinary Policy

Responding to smoking related incidents

The following procedures will apply when there is non-compliance with the Smoke and Vape Free Policy.

Staff

The School's Disciplinary Procedure will be followed for members of staff who do not comply with the School's Smoke and Vape Free Policy.

The staff member will be offered support to help them quit smoking through linking them with appropriate support in the community.

Pupils

The parents of pupils will be contacted and the pupil offered the choice to see the smoking cessation advisor in school and begin a programme of support.

Non staff members/school visitors

Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the Policy to adhere to the Policy.

Assistance for those who smoke

- Local NHS Stop Smoking Services are available to staff, parents/carers and students who would like to stop smoking (*please note: this service should **not** be seen as a disciplinary action*). Free group and one-to-one support may be available for staff and parents/carers through their local Stop Smoking Service
- The NHS Stop Smoking Service may be able to set up a group for parents/carers and/or staff in school upon request. Students in the first instance, should access services through the school nursing service or their GP Practice, or by contacting the NHS Specialist Stop Smoking Service.
- The School will promote these services regularly within the school and through parents' /carer's newsletters/ website etc.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Policy will be reviewed and developed in consultation with the whole school community. It will be widely publicised (staff induction, staff appointment contracts, handbook, website, notice boards, prospectus) and will be included in contracts for those hiring the use of the School premises.

The Policy will be monitored by the Head teacher to ensure compliance and its successful implementation.