

Chelmsford County High School for Girls



Smoking Policy

Approved by the Governing Body: ~~November 2019~~

Chelmsford County High School for Girls

Smoking Policy

Aims

At Chelmsford County High School for Girls we consider the health and welfare of all within our community as a key priority. We believe that a healthy and safe environment is important in terms of physical well-being, and is also a vital factor in promoting emotional health, which in turn will affect the raising of standards. The School regards itself as a health-promoting school and recognizes that its staff act as role-models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion.

The School acknowledges that active and passive tobacco smoke is both a public health hazard and welfare issue. The policy applies equally to anything that can be smoked, as defined below. It is important to us that our policy and approach to smoking should reflect changing social attitudes and actively support our goals for effective and lasting drugs education. In developing our School's policy on smoking, we have sought to:

- Build on our commitment to community well-being
- Reinforce our drug education aims
- Meet DfE guidelines
- Comply with its legal duties under the Health Act 2006 ("the Act"), the Smoke-Free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and the Government's Smoke Free Policy which came into force in all public buildings on 1 May 2007 and in schools on 1 July 2007.

Roles and Responsibilities

It is the policy of the School that smoking will not be allowed while engaged in any school activity or function or anywhere on the school premises, in school vehicles or within sight of the School on Broomfield Road, Swiss Avenue or Corporation Road. The definition of 'Smoking' within this policy applies to anything that can be smoked (e-smoked or vaped) and includes, but is not limited to, cigarettes [electronic cigarettes and vaporisers ('e-cigarettes') whether or not they contain nicotine,], pipes (including water pipes such as shisha and hookah pipes), cigars and herbal cigarettes. The Regulations define premises as all enclosed and substantially enclosed public places used as a place of work by more than one person. Structures will be considered enclosed if they have a ceiling or roof and more than 50% of the perimeter is enclosed and can include temporary structures such as tents, marquees and awnings.

This includes:

- All school buildings
- All school grounds (including the school playing fields)

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- All off-site activities
- All educational and other visits
- All outside lettings
- All school vehicles or any vehicle used for School use
- Within sight of the School on Broomfield Road, Swiss Avenue or Corporation Road.

The policy applies to everyone involved with the school community in any way:

- Employees
- Students
- Voluntary helpers
- Governors
- Visitors
- Outside contractors working on-site
- Anyone attending an outside letting

As a school we believe that everyone connected with us has a responsibility to be actively involved in the implementation of our no-smoking policy, and to assist in taking all necessary and appropriate steps to ensure its full implementation. As part of that strategy, we will:

- Ensure that the policy is regularly made known to all concerned, including: staff, students, parents/carers, voluntary helpers and hirers. This will include the display of no-smoking signs throughout the School.
- Offer practical support to anyone in the school community who is seeking to stop smoking.
- Display information and advice for those who wish to stop smoking around the School premises. Advice on smoking cessation is also available from:
 - ECC Essex [Wellbeing Service](mailto:provide.essexwellbeing@nhs.net) - 0300 303 9988 and provide.essexwellbeing@nhs.net
 - NHS Smokefree Helpline - 0300 123 1044 - www.nhs.uk/smokefree/help-and-advice/support The National QuitLine - Smokefree Registration
- Keep a regular check on the School premises to ensure that they are clear of any smoking related litter.
- Support the reasoning behind the no smoking policy through our drug education programme within PHSE.

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Sanctions

If students are caught smoking, a letter will be sent to the parent/carer by the Headteacher, explaining the circumstances and the School's view of smoking. Students may also be given break and lunchtime detentions, or alternative sanctions as listed on Page 6 of the School Behaviour Policy. Exclusion may be considered for persistent offenders.

Where the Headteacher becomes aware that a member of staff or hirer of the school premises has contravened this policy, they will take appropriate action which may include disciplinary proceedings in the result of the former or termination of agreement in the case of the latter.

The School has a strict legal duty to ensure that smoking is not carried out in a forbidden place on its premises. Should the School fail to comply with its duties under the Act and Regulations it may be liable to a fine.

This policy will be reviewed formally by the Governing Body on a four-yearly basis or sooner if circumstances require earlier review.

APPENDIX A: Frequently Asked Questions (Staff)

1. *Can staff smoke directly outside the School site?*
No, the policy applies to within sight of the School on Broomfield Road, Swiss Avenue or Corporation Road.
2. *Can staff smoke in their own car in the School carpark?*
No
3. *When can staff smoke during working hours?*
Staff are not allowed to smoke during working hours, with the exception of their contracted lunch break, or to take additional smoking breaks.

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