

St Alban's C.E Primary School



Smoking Policy March 2025

Renewed: March 2025
Review date: March 2026

Our school vision



Our vision is that all our pupils should grow in:

Faith in God, or be inspired by faith, and in their own ability to fulfil their potential,

Hope to be the best of examples, to work to change themselves and the world for the better, and

Love, reflecting God's love in unselfish love for others.

Our vision is based on the God given virtues of:

FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

1 Corinthians 13:13

Faith

Hope

Love

St Alban's C of E Primary Smoking Policy

Introduction

- 1.1 At St Alban's CE School we believe that smoking is harmful to health. Consequently, the school is a non-smoking establishment. This includes vaping and e cigarettes.

2 Rationale

- 2.1 Research shows that almost a quarter of all young people are regular smokers by the age of 15. Almost all adult smokers took up the habit when they were children. About 450 children a day take up the habit. Smoking is regarded by the medical profession as the major cause of many illnesses. It is estimated that approximately 120,000 smokers a year die in the UK because of their smoking habit. Children can be harmed by passive smoking, i.e. by inhaling smoke from other people's cigarettes. It is known that smoking is harmful to the unborn babies of mothers who smoke. For all these reasons, our school does all it can to discourage children from smoking, and to educate them, so that they grow up to lead a healthy lifestyle.

3 Aims and objectives

- 3.1 We aim to:
- help children know and understand the dangers of smoking, and the harmful effects that smoking can have on their bodies;
 - provide children with the knowledge and information necessary for them to make responsible choices in relation to smoking;
 - equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressure to smoke, either from their peer group, or from society in general.

4 Organisation

- 4.1 We teach children about the dangers of smoking as part of their personal, social and health education (PSHE) programme, with advice and support from the Health Authority. It is also part of the KS2 Science curriculum. As well as teaching the children about the effects that smoking has on the body, we engage them in discussions about the reasons why people start to smoke, and what they themselves might do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes. The children's class teacher leads all such discussions in a sensitive manner. She/he encourages the children to explore the views of other people, and to reflect on their own personal convictions with regard to smoking. While we explain that it is illegal to sell cigarettes to people under sixteen years of age, our aim is to help the children make their own decision not to smoke simply because they believe it is the wrong lifestyle to choose.
- 4.3 Parents may view any of the smoking-related teaching materials that we use in our school. We make these materials readily available at our annual presentation to parents about the PSHE and RSE curriculum.

5 Staff

- 5.1** We do not allow smoking in the school or within the grounds, as we do not want to present smoking as acceptable. Nor do we wish to present adult smokers as role models. If any member of staff wishes to smoke, she/he must leave the school premises. Should we find any member of staff smoking in school, we would consider this a serious breach of the terms of employment.

7 Visitors to School

- 7.1** We do not allow smoking in the school. We do not allow smoking by parents, visitors or maintenance workers. This includes vaping and e cigarettes.

8 Trips

- 8.1** Parents who are accompanying children on school trips should not smoke in front of children

9 Monitoring and review

- 9.1** It is the role of the headteacher to ensure that this policy is fully implemented. The governors review this policy as part of their monitoring of the effectiveness of the school's PSHE programme.