

Learning Accord Multi Academy Trust

Smoking and Vaping Policy



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1 - Introduction

1.1 Smoking bans in England, including enclosed public places, workplaces, and vehicles, have been enforced since 1 July 2007. Subsequent regulations in 2015 also prohibit smoking in private vehicles when children are present.

1.2 Exposure to second-hand smoke is proven to significantly increase the risk of heart and respiratory diseases in non-smokers, as well as exacerbate conditions such as asthma. The impact of smoking behaviours on children is especially concerning.

1.3 As smoking remains the leading preventable cause of premature death and ill health, the Learning Accord Multi Academy Trust is committed to promoting a smoke-free environment to protect the health of all pupils, staff, and visitors.

1.4 The Trust aims to provide a safe learning and working environment while reinforcing health initiatives in the wider community.

1.5 This policy applies to all staff, contractors, and visitors on Trust premises and covers smoking of all kinds, including cigarettes, cigars, herbal cigarettes, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and vapes.

1.6 No facilities will be provided for smokers on any Trust premises.

2 – Aims of the Policy

2.1 The policy seeks to:

- Ensure a smoke-free environment within all buildings and grounds to protect the health of the Trust community and visitors.
- Promote healthy lifestyles and provide positive role models for pupils and staff.
- Equip children with social skills to resist peer or societal pressure to smoke.
- Align with government and local priorities to reduce smoking prevalence and associated risks.
- Protect the rights of non-smokers to breathe clean air.
- Raise awareness of the health risks linked to smoking and second-hand smoke.
- Support individuals who wish to stop smoking.

2.2 This policy complies with legislation, including:

- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Health Act 2006
- Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991
- Nicotine Inhaling Products (Age of Sale and Proxy Purchasing) Regulations 2015
- Equality Act 2010

2.3 The policy aligns with relevant guidance to ensure best practices.

3 – Organisation

3.1 Pupils in Years 5 and 6 may receive age-appropriate education on the health effects of smoking and vaping e.g. through PSHE lessons in line with each school's planned curriculum.

4 – The Smoke-Free Environment

4.1 This policy applies to all staff, pupils, and visitors, including parents, contractors, temporary staff, and governors.

- Smoking or vaping is prohibited on all Trust sites, including buildings, playgrounds, sports fields, and car parks.
- Smoking or vaping is prohibited during school visits or trips.
- Smoking or vaping at the entrances, exits, or boundaries of school sites is strongly discouraged.
- Signage to enforce the policy will be displayed prominently.

4.2 Staff members are encouraged to inform visitors of the no smoking or vaping policy but should avoid confrontation if it poses a personal safety risk.

5 – Support for Smokers

5.1 Information about NHS Stop Smoking Services and local support will be made available to those who wish to quit smoking.

6 – Disciplinary Action

6.1 Enforcing this policy is a shared responsibility of the Learning Accord Multi Academy Trust and its school and academy communities. Breaches should be addressed appropriately at each site in line with the expectations.

6.2 Staff found smoking or vaping on school premises will face disciplinary action and may be required to leave the site.

6.3 Pupils found in breach of the policy will have their parents informed, and further action will be taken as deemed appropriate.

7- Conclusion

This policy will be reviewed annually in line with the Learning Accord policy review process.