



SAINT AUGUSTINE'S RC HIGH SCHOOL

DRAFT SMOKING POLICY

Date approved by Governors:

Review Date: September 2021

School Mission Statement

At Saint Augustine's we believe that every person is made and loved by God. This is why we respect one another. Within our school community our young people will learn to act justly, love tenderly and recognise God in their lives.

Our school helps families to educate their children in accordance with the principles and teachings of the Catholic Church in an environment which inspires, encourages and supports the development of our pupils through nurturing their gifts and talents.

Our school community will keep alive the memory of Jesus through the Eucharist and through the practice of our Faith. We want everyone at Saint Augustine's to experience the joy of the Gospel in their journey through school and beyond.

Together we will work to make a difference in our community and in the wider world. We follow the example of Saint Augustine by stepping out in faith and celebrating our reasons for living and hoping.

St Augustine's is a non-smoking/vaping School.

The governing body and staff of St Augustine's have a duty to safeguard pupils and staff from the effects of smoking and using e-cigarettes on their own health; from the effects on others, as well as the unknown health side effects of vaping and from the risk of fire associated with lighting and disposing of cigarettes and carrying combustible material for this purpose. This policy covers the school site, areas around the school used by pupils at the start of the day, at break time, lunchtime and at the end of the school day, school buses and any time when pupils are on school trips under the supervision of school staff or any other official school business.

We will not tolerate anybody smoking/vaping on our yards, premises, fields or on the buses which transport our pupils to and from school.

Most young people don't smoke:

1. because they don't need to
2. because they want their breath and clothes to smell fresh
3. because they want to keep fit
4. because it is a waste of their money
5. because they want to live a healthy lifestyle
6. because it is illegal to smoke in all public enclosed areas and work places.

Key Principles

St Augustine's will:

Not accept or tolerate smoking/vaping of any sort by pupils;

Not accept or tolerate the possession of smoking/vaping related items by pupils;

Communicate clearly these expectations to pupils and parents/carers

Support pupils who are attempting to stop smoking/vaping or to resist the temptation to start smoking/vaping.

As a school we believe that the less smoking or vaping appears as normal behaviour to pupils, the less likely they are to start smoking.

You can help to keep us a smoking/vaping-free School.

If you are travelling on a school bus and somebody else is smoking/vaping, they are putting your health at risk. Why should you go home with a sore throat or smelling of smoke?

Stand up for your rights.

Tell your Year Leader or ask your parent / carer to phone in with the names of people smoking/vaping. Either way, the school makes an absolute promise to protect your anonymity.

If you have been identified as smoking/vaping on a school bus the school will pass on your name to the Local Authority Transport Section.

Your parents will be warned in writing that any repetition will lead to you being banned from travelling on school transport. This is already happening across Lancashire.

Smoking/vaping is banned on the yard, in the fields and in any school buildings.

Anyone identified as smoking/vaping while wearing the school uniform is legally subject to school rules.

The school will also pass on to the police the name of any shop or adult identified as selling cigarettes/e-cigarettes to you.

Smoking/vaping, being near people who are smoking/vaping, or bringing cigarettes/e-cigarettes into school:

The Sanctions.

We strongly advise you to keep away from anyone foolish enough to smoke/vape on our school premises.

If you are caught next to, or in a huddle with, smokers/vapers - you will also be disciplined.

You will be subject to school discipline if you are:

- * caught smoking/vaping;
- * caught associating with smokers/vapers;
- * in possession of cigarettes, lighters, cigarette papers, matches, e-cigarettes, e-cigarette liquid;
- * identified as smoking/vaping by a reliable witness.

This rule covers:

- When you are travelling on school buses;
- On school premises, including the school yards and the playing fields;
- Any school trip;
- Wearing our school uniform.

If you are found with cigarettes they will be destroyed in your presence.

The sanction for smoking/vaping or being next to, or in a huddle with a smoker, is an after-school detention. Persistent smokers/vapers may be placed into seclusion, given a fixed term exclusion and banned from trips and social events.

We won't let you damage the health of other people.

St Augustine's will protect the rights of the huge majority of pupils who don't smoke/vape

The school will do all we can to protect your rights and your health. Please report anyone smoking/vaping to a teacher.

Persistent smokers/vapers will be banned from school buses.

Help us to keep our school clean, healthy and smoke free.

If you have any query regarding this policy or if there is something you want us to know about, please phone the school on 01254 823362.