*Hand in hand together we will become resilient, respectful and responsible citizens of our community and the wider world*

Smoke Free Policy

# School Aims

* To provide an open, secure and welcoming environment for each pupil.
* To care for each pupils’ safety, happiness and well-being.
* To value our pupils as individuals, developing their ability to take responsibility for themselves and their actions, promoting confidence and self-esteem, and respect for others and their environment.
* To equip our pupils with the knowledge to make informed choices about having a safe and healthy lifestyle.
* To offer opportunities for our pupils to become involved in the daily life of the school and to prepare them to play an active role as citizens locally and in the wider world.
* To provide a learning environment, which is challenging and stimulating yet ordered and disciplined.
* To provide a broad and balanced curriculum, setting realistic targets for each pupil.
* To extend and reinforce our pupils learning, making expectations clear, and raising achievement levels.
* To develop and maintain a mutually supportive partnership between home and school.
* To further develop and value the partnership that exists between school and the local churches, in particular, through sharing weekly worship and to encourage an appreciation of the Christian faith and a familiarity with the local Christian heritage.

Whittingham C of E Primary School recognises the fact that smoking can have an adverse effect on the health and safety of staff and pupils and realises the benefits of enforcing a Smoke Free Policy on the premises. In line with NCC recommendations and Health Act 2006 Legislation, this policy applies to everyone who is on site at Whittingham C of E Primary School.

It is a recognised fact that a Smoke Free Policy is of benefit to the health of staff and pupils alike and this policy has been developed in consultation with staff and governors.

The school actively promotes health related benefiting policies and includes health education as part of the whole school curriculum. Whittingham C of E Primary School has been a smoke free area for 12 years and new staff and visitors are made aware of the policy though clearly displayed signs outside the building and through a statement in the school brochure and staff handbook.

The Smoke Free Policy goes beyond the Health Act 2006 legislation, which came into effect on the 1st July 2007, by making not only all buildings smoke free, but by making the whole school site smoke free. Signage on all entrances and exits of all school buildings are in line with the Health Act 2006 legislation.

This written policy was formulated during Summer term 2016 and presented to, and ratified by, the governors in the Summer term 2016. The Subject Leader, Headteacher and Governors have all been involved in the formulation of this policy. All staff, parents and pupils have had the opportunity to comment upon its content.

**Rationale**

Smoking is the single most preventable cause of ill health and premature death.

This written policy is to be made available to all members of staff and visitors to raise awareness of the smoke free environment. Whittingham C of E Primary School recognises that a smoke free environment benefits the health of all children and adults alike and it is acknowledged that it must be made clear to everyone that smoking is prohibited both inside and outside, anywhere on school premises. **This includes the use of e-cigarettes, e-shisha products and other vaporising devices, as we do not want to promote any kind of “smoking” related activity as being normalised for young people.**  As such, we would ask that all visitors to the school site refrain from using any “smoking” device anywhere on the school site, including all the grounds.

The staff at Whittingham C of E Primary School actively promote children and young people’s self-esteem through the PSHE curriculum which includes drug education. This highlights the dangers of smoking and gives young people the opportunity to investigate this further.

Whittingham C of E Primary School recognises the role it has to play in being a health promoting establishment. It is important to provide health education to give pupils the opportunity to discuss with peers and adults various choices, and the consequences of these choices. This in turn will lead them on to making informed decisions about their actions and having the knowledge to recognise the consequences of these actions.

**Aims and objectives**

The aim of this policy is to make all people aware that Whittingham C of E Primary School operates a smoke free policy that is for the benefit of all staff and pupils on the premises. **This policy is to inform everyone that any form of smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, e-shisha products and other vaporising devices, is not permitted in the school buildings or grounds by any person at any time.** This includes staff, pupils, visitors and contractors. It also applies to adults accompanying pupils on school visits.

Whilst we acknowledge that there is no research or evidence currently available to suggest that the use of e-cigarettes, e-shisha products and other vaporising devices are harmful, Whittingham C of E Primary School does not want to normalise smoking behaviours. Banning these products on all school grounds will also avoid confusion in distinguishing an electronic device from a conventional cigarette. – As suggested by Montor-ADEPIS (Alcohol and Drug Education and Prevention Information Service) 2014

**Implementation**

The Headteacher (and Deputy Head Teacher in HT’s absence) is responsible for policy implementation and monitoring. Signage at the front of the building inform people about the policy and new staff will be made aware of the policy when taking up post. New parents are informed of the Smoke Free Policy through the school’s brochure which is made available to them when they first visit the school. The policy is also available on the school’s website.

**Breaches of Policy**

Anyone found smoking will be immediately asked to cease. Further breaches will be brought to the attention of the governing body.

Whittingham C of E Primary School will aim to support smokers wishing to stop smoking by giving them information about SMOKING CESSATION SUPPORT. This is available through local health services.

Kerry Lynch is the Northumberland Tobacco Control Lead and Stop Smoking Service Manager (Northumberland Care Trust) 01670 813135

Further information can also be obtained from:

NHS Smoking Helpline 0800 169 0 169

ASH (Action on Smoking) 020 7739 5902

Local Cessation Support No: 01670 813135

Monitoring and Review

The head teacher and governing body are responsible for ensuring that this policy is reviewed by the whole school community on a four-yearly basis.

This will be actioned by the subject leader.

**Review date:** Summer 2020

**Head Teacher:** Mrs Belinda Athey

**Chair of Governors:** Mrs Steph Tuczemskyi

**Named Governor:** Ms Mary Gough

**Subject Lead:** Mrs Maule

Signed ………………………………………………………………………………….