Anti-Smoking Policy (Including Nicotine)

Ellesmere College

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1. Policy Statement

1.1 Ellesmere is committed to promoting the health and well-being of the school community. The College strongly discourages smoking products as they are highly addictive, are seen by many to be anti-social and have long term health risks. Peers, the media, schools and the family all play an important role in shaping a young person's view on smoking.

2. Scope

2.1 This policy has been authorised by the Head and is available to parents and pupils on request. The policy relates to possession and use of all smoking paraphernalia which includes, but is not restricted to, cigarettes, tobacco, cigars, cigarette papers, e-cigarettes, pipes, oral tobacco products (e.g. Snus[1]), personal vaporisers (PV), electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), nicotine pouches and nicotine patches and applies to all pupils at Ellesmere College irrespective of their age. The policy may also apply at times when a pupil is not in the care of the College. The procedures and sanctions may be adapted as appropriate to meet the policy aims and the circumstances of each case.

2.2 Any breach of this policy will be deemed to constitute gross misconduct.

3. Policy Aims

3.1 In line with the government we want to reduce smoking and the harm it causes.

3.2 To obey the law with regards to young people and smoking.

3.3 To educate young people on the health risks associated with smoking products.

4. Education

4.1 Smoking Education will be taught during Science lessons, PSHE, tutor periods and other relevant lessons in a manner appropriate to the pupil's level of understanding:

4.1.1 To enable pupils to make healthy, informed decisions by increasing knowledge, understanding, challenging attitudes and developing communication and social skills.

4.1.2 To provide accurate and age appropriate information about smoking, associated with health risks and the law.

5. Smoking and the Law

5.1 "The Children and Young Persons (Sale of Tobacco) Order 2007" makes it an offence for a person to sell a person under the age of 18 any tobacco (including cigarettes) or cigarette papers. The 'Children and Families Act 2014' make it an offence to purchase tobacco, etc on behalf of persons

[1] Snus is illegal to buy in the UK at any age.

under 18 (Section 91). Section 92 of the same Act prohibits the sale of nicotine products to persons under 18, which include delivery systems, even if intended for another substance. The Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016 (TRPR) lays down the rules governing the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products.

5.2 It is illegal to smoke in the workplace in England, Health Act 2006. The ban applies to all workplaces and public places, public transport, work vehicles, restaurants, pubs, bars, cafes, shopping centres and offices.

5.3 Definitions of Smoking Paraphernalia:

- Smoking refers to the inhalation and exhalation of fumes from burning tobacco in cigars, cigarettes and pipes.
- E-cigarettes, personal vaporizers (PVs), and electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) are battery operated devices that mimic tobacco smoking and are often used as a replacement for cigarettes. They produce a vapour, including flavoured aromas either with or without nicotine, rather than traditional smoke.
- Any nicotine delivery system.

6. School Rules

6.1 No pupil of any age is allowed to bring smoking paraphernalia into school, irrespective of the intention to use. Pupils must not bring the school into disrepute for any reason associated with smoking, whether or not the pupil is in the care of the school at the time. Pupils who remain in the company of others who are smoking are deemed to have been caught smoking.

6.2 Consequences of breaking the rules

6.2.1 Each case will vary according to circumstances and all pupils should be aware that possession or use of smoking paraphernalia will lead to a sanction. The table on page 6 (Appendix 1) gives a guide to the sanctions that will normally apply.

7 Searches for Smoking Paraphernalia

7.1 Searches: This is in line with the College's Behaviour and Discipline Policy on searching and confiscation (Appendix 3) and reiterated below:

7.1.1 Before any search is undertaken the pupil will usually be asked to consent. In seeking consent, the age and maturity of the pupil will be taken into account together with any special needs the pupil may have. Written consent will not usually be required.

7.1.2 Where the Head or an authorised member of staff have reasonable grounds to suspect that a pupil may have a prohibited item, consent is not required and the search will be carried out, as appropriate.

7.1.3 Searches will be carried out only on College premises or, if elsewhere, where the member of staff has lawful control or charge of the pupil, for example on a trip or in training

settings.

7.1.4 Smoking paraphernalia which has been confiscated will be destroyed.

8 Smoking Cessation Support

8.1 Pupils are directed to: Quit Smoking - Better Health - NHS (www.nhs.uk). Alternatively pupils can be referred to the Social Prescribing Team at Churchmere Medical Practice, who can provide support.

9 Monitoring and Review

9.1 This policy will be reviewed every three years or following the issue of any new guidance from the Department of Education or ISI.

9.2 The review will be carried out by the Deputy Head Pastoral and recommendation sent to the Head for authorisation.

Authorised by	Head
Reviewed by	Deputy Head Pastoral
Date	February 2026

Effective Date of the Policy	February 2026

APPENDIX 1

	Offence:	**Sanction:**
1.	a) Smoking outdoors or in possession of smoking paraphernalia for the first time.	School detention & Gating Card. Parents informed.
2.	a) Smoking outdoors or in possession of smoking paraphernalia for the second time.	HM detention & Gating Card. Parents informed. Pupil seen by Deputy Head Pastoral
3.	a) Smoking outdoors or in possession of smoking paraphernalia for the third time. b) Smoking within a building (which is a breach in UK law). c) Use of smoking paraphernalia in a 'public place'.	Suspension at HM's discretion. Year 11 and Sixth Form pupils in Summer Term, deferred until after last exam.
4.	Repeated suspension may lead to the pupil being asked to leave the College.	

In all cases, smoking cessation support will be offered (see 8.1).