

Nazareth House P.S. Policy on Smoking

1. Background

Smoking is an addictive habit, generally acquired in childhood, which causes an appalling amount of preventable death, disability and suffering. In Northern Ireland, over 2,500 people die every year because of smoking.

Passive smoking, once thought to be only a nuisance, is now also acknowledged to be harmful to health.

Nazareth House P.S. has a responsibility to promote healthy lifestyles and, in pursuit of this, teaches pupils about the hazards of smoking as part of Health Education. Our school wishes to provide an environment, which complements and does not negate this teaching. It also wishes to protect the health of staff, users and visitors to the school.

2. Objectives of the policy

- a) To protect non-smokers from environmental tobacco smoke.
- b) To demonstrate the school's commitment to promoting the health of its staff, pupils and the community it serves.
- c) To educate pupils and staff about the serious health risks of smoking and the substantial benefits of stopping.
- d) To provide support for those who wish to stop smoking.

3 The School Policy

Nazareth House P.S. will be considered a non- smoking environment.

Smoking by staff will not be permitted within the school environs. Students on placement are not permitted to smoke on the school premises.

Newly appointed staff will be given a copy of this policy.

4. Implementation of the Policy

- a) Members of staff will be given a copy of the policy, which will become part of their contract and employment.
- b) Members of staff will inform visitors as appropriate.
- c) Signs and notices will be posted.

5. Support for smokers

Members of staff who wish to stop smoking will be encouraged and supported by their colleagues and employer.

6. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually.