

SMOKING AND VAPING POLICY

Policy Statement

Rationale

Aspire North East Multi Academy Trust has a duty to protect its employees and young people from known hazards. We promote the physical and emotional well-being of our academies and local communities. We understand that the health risks associated with smoking are serious and detrimental for those who smoke, as well as people within close proximity. Therefore, as a result of the damaging effects of both active and passive smoking, smoking is prohibited anywhere on the grounds or the immediate surroundings of the Trust. This policy covers both nicotine and other substances which can be smoked or vaped.

Aims

We aim to:

- Create a smoke-free environment for all those within the Trust community, including staff, young people, visitors, parents, carers, etc.

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Any individual who is witnessed smoking on the premises, or within the immediate surrounding area during academy hours, will be subject to disciplinary sanctions, as outlined below.

Although e-cigarettes are not covered by the Health Act 2006, the Trust adopts a fully smoke-free environment, and recognises that use of e-cigarettes, still pose some hazards, particularly for those with asthma and respiratory conditions who may be affected by the vapour.

Smoking or vaping is not permitted at any time in vehicles being used on behalf of the Trust, e.g. Trust minibuses, whether or not young people are present, or car mileage allowance is being claimed, as smoke fumes may linger in the vehicle and affect the health of other passengers.

Smoking or vaping is not permitted in any personal vehicles on the Trust premises or within the immediate surrounding area.

Any individual witnessed smoking or vaping in personal vehicles as outlined above, or in vehicles used on behalf of the Trust, will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined below.

It is illegal for any individual under the age of 18 to smoke or vape. Any young person witnessed using cigarettes or e-cigarettes on the premises or within the immediate surrounding area during school hours will face disciplinary action.

