



PONTARDDULAIS COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL YSGOL GYFUN PONTARDDULAIS



Anti-Smoking Policy Polisi Gwrth Ysmygu

Mr. G. Rees
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Review Date: 2021
Next Review: 2024

Learn to live...
live to learn

Byw I ddysgu...
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PONTARDDULAIS COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

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Pontarddulais Comprehensive School regards itself as a health-promoting organisation, and as such seeks to:

- protect the children, staff and visitors from the effects of tobacco smoke.
- provide a healthy environment for employees and pupils.
- acknowledge the educational role of the organisation in discouraging children and young people from starting to smoke.
- provide a positive role model in relation to smoking, which is consistent with the taught curriculum.

Pontarddulais Comprehensive School is a non-smoking site which includes the use of electronic cigarettes/vaping. This policy identifies how the school will continue to maintain a smoke free environment within the school premises for the benefit of pupils, staff, visitors, parents & carers as well as members of the public.

The school will continue to encourage and support pupils to stop smoking through PSE programmes and the work of our school nurse.

Passive smoking is a health and safety issue for all individuals within the school. Children and young people are more susceptible than adults to the effects of passive smoking. 17,000 children under the age of five are admitted to hospital every year in the UK as a result of breathing second hand smoke. Associated illnesses include bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma and other respiratory problems.

There is a misconception that e-cigarettes/vaping are a healthier alternative to traditional combustible cigarettes. Health effects of vaping include the risk of chronic nicotine addiction, lung disease and damage, cardiovascular damage and increased risk for additional substance use.

Policy Strategy

The school is designated a non-smoking site and everyone involved with the school community is expected to adhere to the Anti-Smoking Policy. Those groups are:

- All staff
- Student Teachers
- Pupils
- Voluntary helpers
- Governors
- Visitors
- Contractors working on site
- Individuals using the leisure facilities
- Individuals attending an outside letting
- Individuals attending a social event



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Welsh Government Law Change regarding smoke-free spaces

From 1st March 2021, all school grounds in Wales will become smoke-free spaces.

Wales becomes the first country in the UK to extend its smoking ban to certain outdoor areas. Smoking in smoke-free spaces – which not only includes school grounds but also public playgrounds, outdoor day-care and child-minding settings as well as hospital grounds – from 1st March could result in a £100 fine.

As a school we acknowledge the important role we play in protecting everyone from harmful second-hand smoke and we especially recognise the important role that adults have in influencing the attitudes and smoking behaviour of children and young people. Banning smoking in places where children and young people spend their time will de-normalise smoking and reduce the chances of children and young people to start smoking in the first place– ultimately saving lives.

Please be assured we deal swiftly and appropriately when, on the exceedingly rare occasions that pupils have brought cigarettes/lighters into school in the past. We view such actions as a profoundly serious violation of the school code of conduct, we are therefore pleased to learn that the Welsh Government has reinforced this view in a legal sense.

Please open the link for more information: <https://gov.wales/smoke-free-law-guidance-changes-march-2021-html>

In accordance with the Schools Anti-Smoking Policy, the following will apply:

Pupils

- Pupils are not allowed to smoke at school or whilst engaged in any off-site activity.
- Pupils are not allowed to smoke near the school site
- Pupils should not smoke whilst travelling to or from school.

Staff

- Staff are recognised `role models` and as such are required not to smoke on school premises. This will include visits, school excursions etc.
- This will also apply to employees whilst exercising direct responsibility for pupils on off-site activities, e.g. in the school mini-bus, school fixtures etc.

Visitors

- The Anti-Smoking Policy applies to all visitors to the school including suppliers, supply or temporary staff and contractors.



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Parents and Carers

- It will be requested that Parents and Carers adhere to the Anti-Smoking Policy and refrain from smoking on the school grounds.

Events

- The Anti-Smoking policy applies to all social events
- Where events are booked by outside agencies, all parties are to be made aware of the Anti-Smoking policy

Pupils who are found smoking on, or near, the school site

Any pupil found smoking on, or near, the school premises will be sanctioned appropriately. Parents / Carers will be informed.

Pupils who are found smoking on or near the school site will be offered further advice/ support from the school nurse.

Education

Pontarddulais Comprehensive School educates pupils about the consequences and dangers of smoking. This takes place mainly in PSE lessons in year 7 where issues of peer pressure and smoking are also considered by pupils. The issues surrounding the use of drugs and substance misuse are further reinforced in the subsequent Year Groups, building upon the understanding gained in year 7 with reference to other drugs for example, alcohol. In this way smoking is referred back to and the issues around health and risk factors associated with this drug are reinforced throughout pupils' school careers.

PSE

Year 8 and Year 10 pupils are taught specific units about tobacco/vaping and other drugs. They learn what tobacco contains and the problems and risks associated with smoking. They also consider attitudes towards smoking and peer pressure.

In year 10 they follow a programme discussing legal and illegal drugs and the impact on healthy lifestyles.



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Science

During science lessons Year 8 pupils learn about the respiratory system and the impact smoking has on the human body. They also learn about the impact of passive smoking. Year 10 pupils look at the chemicals contained in tobacco smoke and their effect on the human body.

Physical Education

During Physical Education sessions throughout key stage 3 the pupils learn about the impact of an unhealthy lifestyle including smoking and substance misuse.

The GCSE course in Physical education encourages pupils to think about smoking in terms of athletes and how it could hinder their performance. It also discusses 'Drugs in Sports' and the impact upon health.

This policy will be reviewed and updated annually.

Useful Website / Helplines

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/document/110905>

<http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/smoking/Pages/Teensmokersquit.aspx>

http://www.childrenfirst.nhs.uk/teens/life/features/health_illnesses/giving-up-smoking.html

<http://www.ash.org.uk/>

Anti-Smoking Help line 0800 169 0169