



## Smoking and Drugs Policy

### Aims

The Agricultural and Rural centre regards itself as a health-promoting organisation. It recognises that its staff acts as role models for pupils in all aspects of centre life, including health promotion. Considering the evidence that second hand smoke causes damage to health this Smoking Policy has been implemented to:

- protect the staff, children and young people, visitors and contractors from the effects of tobacco smoke and e-cigarettes.
- Acknowledge the educational role of the centre in discouraging children and young people from starting to smoke
- Protect the young people from drugs including alcohol and other banned substances.
- to be a health promoting centre
- raise awareness of the dangers of smoking, alcohol and other drugs related paraphernalia through the Personal Social and Health Education Programme
- help smokers to quit

### Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a healthy and safe working environment for all The Agricultural and Rural Centre staff and pupils, contractors and other visitors.

The intention is not to confront smokers but to encourage and help those that wish to give up through the curriculum.

### Policy statement

Smoking is known to be a serious risk to health. It is a significant cause of disease and premature death. In addition there is now evidence that "passive smoking", the inhaling of other people's smoke, can cause lung cancer in non-smokers, as well as causing a deterioration of respiratory conditions.

### Whole Centre Ban

This Smoking Policy would not allow any smoking within the boundaries of the centre site at any time, by anyone - employees, care staff or visitors, under any circumstances. The Agricultural and Rural Centre does not have a designated smoking area

### Employee co-operation

- Parents and Care staff will ensure that pupils do not bring smoking equipment to centre or alternative providers - This equipment can be very dangerous to some pupils. If your pupil refuses to hand in this equipment, then they should remain at home until they do so.
- Parents and Care staff are not allowed to smoke in the presence/sight of pupils. This would include trips outside of centre hours.
- Parents and Care staff are not allowed to smoke on centre premises, however they can smoke in the identified Smoking Area offsite.
- All new and prospective employees to be advised of the restrictions and rules regarding smoking at work through advertising material, the interview process and induction.
- Information will be included in the centre prospectus and website.
- This Policy is to be incorporated into the standard terms and conditions of employment for all employees.

- It is anticipated that all employees will comply with the Smoking Policy. In circumstances where there is willful contravention of the Smoking and Drugs Policy, steps may be taken to invoke disciplinary procedures.

### **Pupils**

- Smoking among pupils during centre hours is not permitted
- Smoking among pupils on centre visits or trips is not permitted.
- Smoking among pupils attending Alternative Providers is not permitted.
- Help will always be provided to those pupils who want advice
- Pupils are not allowed to bring any contraband (cigarettes, lighters, roll ups etc) into the centre setting or Alternative Providers.
- The car park is still classified as centre premises and no smoking should take place on the premises

### **If young people are caught smoking or with smoking paraphernalia:**

- Parents and Care Staff will be called to remove any smoking paraphernalia and supporting equipment.
- The behaviour policy will be followed in relation to Consequences that the centre imposes.
- Homes will follow own protocol in relation to loss of privileges in relation to Behavior rewards
- Homes will follow own protocol in relation to awareness session on the dangers of smoking
- Homes will follow own protocol in relation to letter home to carers and social workers to notify them of the breach of agreement
- Details on support stop smoking services through leaflets and poster (provided)
- Education work to be provided at home if contraband continues to be brought into centre, as we have a duty of care to others.

### **Pupils with social worker consent to smoke**

The Agricultural and Rural Centre understands that some of our young people have been smoking for numerous amounts of years and is a part of their personal needs to help them keep calm and deal with their lives.

Children whose needs have been identified and have permission via a Social Worker Consent Form will have their needs met.

During the Centre Assessment and Reintegration Programme a written agreement will be put into place to explain the procedure below by the Personal Development, Behavior and Welfare team.

Therefore, the centre day for them will be broken up into three sessions this includes when they attend the gym and the ARC

- Morning Session 9:45am -13:15
- Lunch Session 14:15pm - 13:45 pm
- Afternoon Session 13:45pm - 14:45pm
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It is the responsibility of the Parent and Care Staff to ensure their YP does not bring any contraband (cigarettes, lighters, roll up etc) into the centre setting.

This is to keep

- All children safe
- Prevent others from experimenting with the idea of wanting to smoke
- Sharing their contraband

As The Agricultural and Rural Centre is a no smoking site, the Care Staff will have to collect their YP at 13:15pm promptly to have their lunch and smoke off site. The YP is not allowed to pop in and out for a cigarette during lunch time. We will expect to see them back ready for their afternoon session at

13:45pm promptly. If they are late returning, they will be issued with a late mark in the register. Teaching staff are not permitted to take any young person off site at lunchtime.

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**Review**

This Centre Smoking Policy and procedure will be monitored annually by the Centre's Senior Management Team in consultation with staff and a report made to the board of directors.

Updated January 2026