

# Featherstone High School



## *Non Smoking Policy*

**Prepared by:**  
John Noel, Assistant Head, Access & Inclusion; April 2010

**Ratified by governors on:**  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**To be reviewed:** 2012

## **FHS Non Smoking Policy**

### **Introduction**

Featherstone High School is committed to the active promotion and ultimate achievement of the goal of a smoke free working environment for all its employees consistent with the objective of health protection and promotion within an educational setting. Smoking and second hand smoking has been shown to cause cancers, heart and respiratory diseases. There is considerable evidence regarding the impact of smoking behaviours on children. As smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in our society, as a school we believe it is our responsibility to promote a no smoking policy and to give everyone the right to breathe clean air and to avoid the dangers of second hand smoke. Children need to receive consistent messages and require non-smoking role models if they are to recognise no smoking as the norm. Featherstone High School aims to provide a safe working and learning environment for both pupils and staff and to this end the whole school supports a no smoking policy which reinforces the messages within the PSHE/Citizenship curriculum and the health initiatives in the wider community.

### **The Law**

Employers are required by the Health & Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of their employees and others who use their premises. Article 4(2) (e) of the Order requires that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the working environment is safe, without risks to health and adequate as regards facilities and arrangements for employees. The Health and Safety Inspectorate recommends that all employers should have a specific written policy on smoking in the workplace which gives priority to the needs of non-smokers who do not wish to breathe tobacco smoke.

### **A Smoke Free Environment**

A smoke free environment supports the health and welfare of all who work in or visit the school. It also falls in line with the Healthy Schools programme which required all schools to be smoke free sites from 2007. Staff who leave the site to smoke must ensure that this takes place in their own time and not in the view of students from Featherstone High School.

### **Support and Education for Staff**

All staff will be offered support to stop or reduce their smoking and encourage adherence to the policy. Staff will be advised of where they can receive support to stop smoking. Useful information can be found at [www.smokefree.nhs.uk](http://www.smokefree.nhs.uk). Staff who smoke on site may face disciplinary procedures in line with the general code of conduct. Staff who are experiencing difficulties related to this policy can see the personnel manager for advice and guidance.

### **Support and Education for Students**

All students will be taught about the dangers and effects of smoking within the PSHE curriculum and specifically within science. Students who smoke will be offered support to stop or reduce their smoking and encourage adherence to the policy. Students who have more individual needs will receive support from the school nurse, via practitioners from DAAP (Drug Alcohol Advice Programme) the Social Inclusion Department (SID) and the pastoral team. Students can self refer to SID and referrals can be made by parents/guardians and other practitioners.

If there are persistent problems with students not adhering to the policy, sanctions will apply. These will vary, depending on the assessment of each case. Procedures and practice related to the policy will be promoted and made known to the school community – such as on signs, induction material and other school information

### **Monitoring & Evaluation**

The curriculum development team will monitor the delivery of lessons related to no smoking. The programme will be reviewed on a yearly basis. Lessons will be observed by the TLR1 curriculum development team and students will be consulted on the delivery and effectiveness of the lessons. The policy will be reviewed every two years by the Student and Welfare Committee.

### **Other relevant policies and procedures**

- Staff Discipline policy
- Whistle blowing policy
- Drug Education Policy
- Behaviour Policy