



“Inspiring learning, developing character, building futures”

## Student Support Policies and Procedures

### SMOKE AND VAPE FREE POLICY

*Aim:*

- To ensure a smoke and vape-free environment for all staff, students, visitors, and contractors, promoting a healthy learning and working environment.

Policy Authorisation:	Management: Senior Leadership Team
Date of Policy Update:	June 2024
Date of Policy Review:	June 2027
Policy Author	Assistant Principal – Student Support

# **SMOKE AND VAPE FREE POLICY**

## **1. Introduction**

Smoking is the main cause of preventable illness and premature death in England, leading to cancers, respiratory diseases, and heart disease. Both smoking and vaping increase the risk of respiratory infections and can carry infectious viruses through exhaled smoke or vapour.

Although the NHS states vaping is less harmful than smoking, the long-term risks are unknown. Vaping can cause headaches, dizziness, nausea, coughing, and throat and mouth irritation. More details can be found [here](#).

Unregulated vapes pose additional dangers, with cases of contaminated vapes causing serious illness. Illicit e-cigarettes can contain unsafe levels of metals like nickel, lead, and chromium.

Vaping may also affect mental health.

Blackpool Sixth Form College's policy ensures a smoke and vape-free environment for all staff, students, visitors, and contractors, promoting a healthy learning and working environment.

## **2. Aims and Scope**

Smoking and vaping are banned throughout the buildings and campus boundaries for all staff, students, contractors, visitors, and the public.

This policy includes all smoke-producing substances: manufactured cigarettes, vapes, e-cigarettes, hand-rolled cigarettes, pipes, cigars, herbal cigarettes, and water pipes.

All College events are smoke and vape-free.

## **3. Responsibilities**

- Assistant Principal - Student Support: Ensures policy application across the college.
- Head of Student Services: Ensures students are aware of the policy.
- Head of Estates: Ensures statutory no-smoking signage is displayed.
- Line Managers: Inform staff about the policy.
- All Staff: Enforce the policy by addressing anyone seen smoking or vaping on campus.

## **4. Help to Reduce or Stop Smoking**

Support for smoking cessation is provided by partnering with NHS services.

## 5. Enforcement

Non-compliance with this policy may result in disciplinary action for staff and students. Visitors will be asked to stop smoking or vaping and leave the campus if they continue.

For students seen smoking or vaping:

- Outdoors: Remind them of the smoke and vape-free policy, point out signage, and explain potential disciplinary action for repeated non-compliance.
- Indoors: Remind them of the policy, point out signage, instruct them to stop immediately, explain disciplinary actions, and report the incident to their Progress Mentor.

Persistent offenders will face disciplinary action based on their overall disciplinary record.