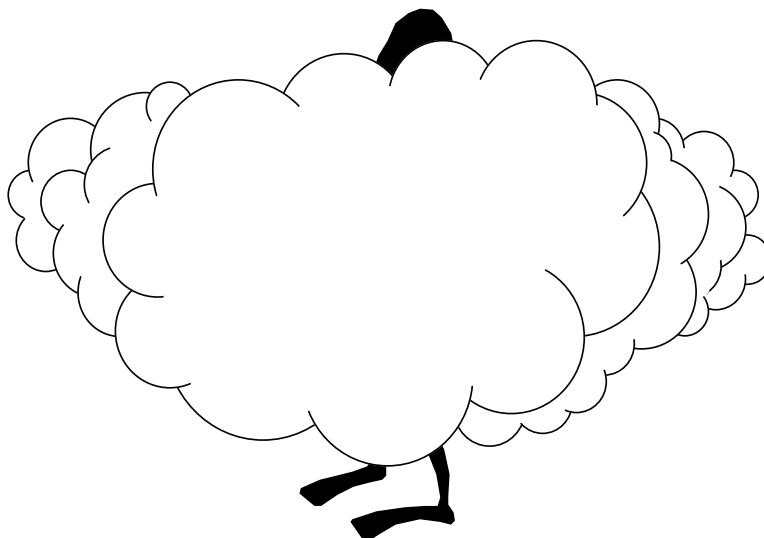


## ST. EITHNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

### SMOKEFREE POLICY



#### **Rationale**

Smoking is an addictive habit generally acquired in childhood, which causes an appalling amount of preventable death, disability and suffering. In Northern Ireland, over 3,000 people die every year because of smoking. Passive smoking, once thought to be only a nuisance, is now also acknowledged to be harmful to health.

This school has a responsibility to promote healthy lifestyles and, in pursuit of this, teaches pupils about the hazards of smoking as part of the health education cross-curricular theme. The school wishes to provide an environment which complements and does not negate this teaching. It also wishes to protect the health of staff, pupils, users of and visitors to the school.

Consequently, after consultation, the Board of Governors has adopted this smoke free policy.

#### **Aims /Objectives.**

- (a) To protect non-smokers from environmental tobacco smoke.
- (b) To demonstrate the school's commitment to promoting the health of its staff, its pupils and the community it serves.
- (c) To educate pupils and staff about the serious health risks of smoking and the substantial benefits of stopping.
- (d) To provide support for those who wish to stop smoking.

## **Roles and Responsibilities.**

### **(a) Pupils:**

Pupils may not smoke while on the school premises, (*while in public wearing the school uniform*) or while engaged in school- related activities outside school.

### **(b) All members of staff: Teaching, Peripatetic, support and Non-teaching:**

Staff may not smoke while on the school premises or when supervising school related activities outside school.

Staff appointments procedure will ensure that all applicants for posts in this school are informed on the job description and interview that they will not be permitted to smoke while on the school premises or when supervising activities outside school. As this is a formal school policy, failure to comply with it will be dealt with through the usual management arrangements.

### **Visitors to the school:**

Visitors, including Parents, Governors, Western Education and Library Board (WELB), Council for Catholic Maintained schools (CCMS) officials, suppliers, contractors and repair workers will not be permitted to smoke on the school premises.

### **(d) Those Hiring or Leasing the School Premises:**

Persons using the school premises, for whatever purpose, at any time, will not be permitted to smoke.

## **Implementation**

- (a) Members of staff will be given a copy of this policy, which will then become part of their contract of employment.
- (b) Parents will be informed by letter.
- (c) WELB/CCMS officials, suppliers and contractors will be informed as appropriate.
- (d) Members of staff will inform visitors as appropriate.
- (e) Signs and notices will be posted.

### **Support for smokers.**

Members of staff (and pupils) who wish to stop smoking will be encouraged and supported by their colleagues and employer (details for smoking cessation services, school nurse etc).

### **Monitoring and Review.**

- (a) This policy will be monitored annually by the Principal and Board of Governors.
- (b) It will be reviewed and, if desired, revised every two years.