NO SMOKING

POLICY

Unity College is a no smoking site in line with all other public places

Why do we need a no smoking policy?

At Unity College we value the health and welfare of all within our community as a key priority. We believe that a healthy and safe environment is important in terms of physical well-being, and is also a vital factor in promoting emotional health, which in turn will affect the raising of standards.

It is important to us, that our policy and approach to smoking should reflect changing social attitudes and actively reflect and support our goals for effective and lasting drugs education. We acknowledge the harmful effects of passive smoking and the potential risk of other students becoming smokers by association with their peers.

In developing our college policy on smoking, we have sought to:

- Build on our commitment to community well-being
- Reinforce our drug education aims
- Reflect LA policy and national legislation
- Meet DfES guidelines
- Communicate a clear, simple and united message that smoking is not acceptable anywhere at college.

What is the Policy?

It is the policy of Unity College, that smoking will not be allowed at any college function or anywhere on the college premises. This includes:

- All college buildings
- All college grounds (including the college playing fields and entrance gates)
- All off-site activities
- All educational and other visits
- All outside lettings

The policy applies to EVERYONE involved with the school community in any way:

- Employees
- Students
- Voluntary helpers
- Governors
- Visitors
- Outside contractors working on-site
- Anyone attending an outside letting

Students represent the college whenever they are out in public wearing college uniform or on their way to and from college. This policy therefore extends to include these circumstances.

As a college, we believe that everyone connected with us has a responsibility to be actively involved in the implementation of our no smoking policy, and to assist in taking all necessary and appropriate steps to ensure its full implementation.

As part of that strategy we will:

a) Ensure that the policy is regularly made known to all concerned, including: staff, students, parents/carers, voluntary helpers and hirers. This will include the display of no smoking signs.
b) Offer all practical support to anyone in the college community who is seeking to stop smoking.
c) Keep a regular check on the college premises to ensure that they are clear of any smoking related litter.
d) Not condone any smoking in or around college
e) Support the reasoning behind the no smoking policy through our drug education programme within PHSCE.
f) Confiscate and destroy any cigarettes, lighters or other smoking equipment including E-cigarettes, if it is found in a student's possession in college.

Sanctions

Where a student fails to follow this policy the following actions will be implemented:

- Student will be made aware of the exact nature of the breach of policy
- Parents contacted by phone or letter
- Student will be subject to unannounced searches for smoking related materials
- Any smoking related materials will be confiscated and destroyed
- The Police Early Action team will be notified in respect of illegal activity concerning the supply of tobacco and smoking related materials to persons under the age of 18 years.
- Consequences may be implemented via the consequence grid. For example, C5 – possession/bringing in inappropriate items, or C5 – bringing the college into disrepute.

NB Smoking inside the building is deemed to be a more serious and potentially dangerous incident. Students found to be smoking inside the building at any time will immediately incur sanctions.

At all stages of the process, students will be offered support to stop smoking if this is appropriate.

Breaches of this policy by staff will lead to formal disciplinary action being taken.

This document is freely available to the entire college community. It has been made available on the college website, in faculty offices and in the main college office.

It will be reviewed on a three yearly basis.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- PHSCE   Science
- Drug incident Management Policy   Drugs Education
- College Discipline Policy

    This policy is updated and reviewed on a regular basis.