



Anti-Smoking Policy

Policy number	BS015
Applies to	Whole School
Endorsed by	Head Master
Responsibility	Head Master
Date reviewed	March 2021
Next review	March 2022

Anti-Smoking Policy

In line with the Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006 which came into force on 1st July 2007, Bedford School adopts a clear anti-smoking policy for its pupils, with no smoking allowed at any point during a boy's school career. This applies not only on the school estate but also when off the estate in school uniform and on all school related activities or trips. The school adopts this policy for reasons of health, education and safety.

The school supports its stance not only with the sanctions that are described below but also with support from the school Medical Centre and regular education as part of its Citizenship Programme. If a boy is caught smoking, he will receive a clear warning from his Tutor and/or Housemaster. Parents will be informed. A Conduct Detention is likely to be given. The boy will be encouraged to visit the Medical Centre for advice.

For a second offence, an official letter of warning will be sent to the parents and placed on the boy's school file. A Conduct Detention will be given. There will be a referral to the Medical Centre.

For a third offence, an interview with the Vice Master will occur and another letter will be sent home. A follow-up programme in the Medical Centre or through their local GP will be compulsory at this stage.

If a boy is caught smoking three times, he is in persistent breach of school policy. At that point, it is clearly the case that the disciplinary framework of the school is being challenged and, as such, the issue becomes not only that of smoking but also of the willingness to abide by that framework. Any further breach of the policy will thus be referred to the Head Master and it is possible that temporary exclusion might result. Permanent exclusion is possible if continued breaches reveal a breakdown in the disciplinary relationship between the boy and the school.

Whilst the personal health of each pupil is the paramount reason for this policy, it should also be noted that the Health and Safety issues surrounding smoking are taken seriously by the school and that therefore any boy found smoking within school buildings will be treated with significantly greater severity as a result.

The school considers vaping to be a form of smoking. In October 2015 it became illegal to sell e-cigarettes (such as vape pens) and vaping liquid to people under the age of 18 due to the health risks. Boys using, buying or possessing vaping equipment will be dealt with according to this policy.