



Rye Community Primary School & Starfish Pre-school  
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7ND  
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Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Families,

Rye Community Primary School has a duty to protect its pupils, employees and families from known hazards.

We understand that the health risks associated with smoking are serious and detrimental for those who smoke, as well as for people within close proximity- often referred to as passive smoking.

We have had a number of concerned parents bringing to our attention, concerns around other parents smoking or vaping outside the school gates at pick up time. This is unacceptable and we would ask for this to stop immediately- repeat offenders could face a warning and then a ban from the school site if this behaviour were to continue.

As a school we aim to:

**Create a smoke-free environment for all those within the school community, including, pupils, parents, staff and visitors etc.**

The principles outlined in this letter apply to **all** parents, family members, friends of the school, staff, pupils, visitors and contractors.

The principles outlined in this letter also continue to apply whether or not 'no smoking' signs are displayed.

The principles outlined in this letter apply to **BOTH tobacco smoking and vaping**.

**We have a NO SMOKING policy.** In line with national legislation all buildings and outbuildings are designated no smoking areas. Anyone wishing to smoke should do so off the school premises- not on the ingress and egress paths on the way in or out of school and not outside any of the school gates. We would request that you dispose of any cigarette ends appropriately, before entering the school grounds. It is the responsibility of all individuals to uphold and comply with the smoking regulations.

Smoking is prohibited on the school premises **at all times**; there are no designated areas available on the school premises for smoking.

Parents, Staff, contractors, visitors and pupils are not permitted to smoke within any of the school grounds or anything deemed as school site/ school premises; this is to reduce the risk to pupils, parents and other members of the school community.

It is illegal for any individual under the age of 18 to smoke. Any pupil witnessed using cigarettes in and around the school premises, or whilst wearing school uniform, will be reported to their relevant school and could face disciplinary action.

**All areas of the school premises, including outdoor areas, are designated smoke-free environments and, as such, all individuals will be prohibited from smoking anywhere on the premises.**

**If you have any questions or queries regarding anything contained within this letter- then please do not hesitate to contact me.**

**Thank you for your support in this matter.**

**Kelly Martin**

**Headteacher**