



## **NO SMOKING AND NO VAPING POLICY**

### **1. Introduction**

There can be little doubt that attitudes towards smoking and/or vaping in public areas and at workplaces have changed dramatically over the past two decades or so, following an increased concern about matters of health and safety generally and associated educational issues. More recently, there have been specific concerns over the effects of "passive smoking" and a growing tendency among children and young people to smoke and/or vape.

Smoking is known to be the principal avoidable cause of premature deaths in the UK. That is why the Government White Paper "Choosing Health: Making healthier choices easier", promises new action to tackle tobacco and reduce the 106,000 deaths in the UK caused by smoking every year (86,500 in England). Although vaping is relatively new and the longer-term health implications unknown, it is believed that these could be as severe as smoking.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2007 all workplaces in England we are required to be smoke free (Health Act 2006 and the Smoke -free (premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006). From this date it is classed as a criminal offence to smoke in a smoke - free place.

MIAG operates a No Smoking and No Vaping Policy in all its workplaces.

### **2. Aims**

2.1 MIAG regards itself as a health-promoting organisation. It recognises that its staff act as role models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including health promotion. In light of the evidence that second hand smoke causes damage to health this No Smoking and No Vaping Policy has been implemented to:

- protect the staff, children and young people, visitors, and contractors from the effects of tobacco smoke and/or vaping.
- acknowledge the educational role of the organisation in discouraging children and young people from starting to smoke and/or vape.
- to be a health promoting organisation.
- raise awareness of the dangers of smoking and vaping through the Personal Social and Health Education Programme; and help smokers and/or vape uses to quit.

### **3. Purpose**

3.1 The purpose of this No Smoking and No Vaping Policy is to provide a healthy and safe working environment for all employees, learners, parents/care givers, contractors, and other visitors.

3.2 The intention is not to confront smokers and/or vape uses, but to encourage and help those that wish to give up. The issue is not whether someone smokes/vapes, but where and when he or she smokes/vapes, and the legal implications of underage learners accessing vapes/smoking.

#### **4. Policy Statement**

4.1 All employers have a duty to ensure as far as reasonably practicable, the health and safety of their employees. This duty is reflected in legislation, which places on the employer the requirement to assess risks to employees' health in the workplace and take appropriate remedial action.

4.2 Smoking and/or vaping is known to be a serious risk to health. It is a significant cause of disease and premature death. In addition, there is now evidence that "passive smoking", the inhaling of other people's smoke, can cause lung cancer in non-smokers, as well as causing a deterioration of respiratory conditions.

4.3 MIAG operates a No Smoking and No Vaping Policy on ALL sites.

#### **5. Whole School Ban**

5.1 It would be the responsibility of the Head of ALP or his/her representative(s) to always enforce the policy and to advise employees and ensure that visitors to the site comply with these arrangements.

5.2 Any contractor employed on site would be made aware of the ban before work is undertaken. It would be written into service specifications for contractors.

5.3 Smoking and/or vaping would not be permitted by any group hiring MIAG premises for functions or regular lettings and this would be written into the hire agreement.

5.4 MIAG need to post notices reminding people that this is a smoke/vape free site.

#### **6. Support for employees**

6.1 MIAG recognises that staff who smoke and/or vape may need support either to give up smoking/vaping or help control their smoking/vaping.

6.2 MIAG will make available to employees the NHS smoking helpline number to get free advice and for information on your nearest Stop Smoking Service on 0800 013 0845.

#### **7. Employee co-operation**

7.2 Staff are not allowed to smoke and/or vape on any school premises (this includes during trips)

7.3 All new and prospective employees to be advised of the restrictions and rules regarding smoking and/or vaping at work through advertising material, the interview process and induction.

7.4 It is anticipated that all employees will comply with the No Smoking and No Vaping Policy. In circumstances where there is wilful contravention of the No Smoking and No Vaping Policy, steps will be taken to invoke disciplinary procedures.

#### **8. Outside agencies using the school premises**

8.1 MIAG No Smoking and No Vaping Policy applies to all education/events held at any MIAG centre.

## **9. Pupils**

9.1 Smoking and/or vaping among learners during MIAG hours is not permitted.

9.2 Smoking and/or vaping among learners on MIAG off site visits or trips is not permitted.

9.3 Pupils caught smoking and/or vaping, or pupils in the presence of others who are smoking/vaping will be sanctioned in line with the 'home school' behaviour procedures.

Parents/carers informed via DSL; home school's informed by end of the day for next steps for student/s, this will be in line with the home school's current No Smoking/Vaping policy.

9.4 Persistent offenders may have their placement at MIAG retracted.

9.5 Help will always be provided to those pupils who want advice, through PSHE and signposting to support agencies.

## **10. Parents/care givers**

10.1 Parent/caregivers will have access to view this policy on the MIAG website.

10.2 Parent/caregivers will receive correspondence from MIAG clearly stating expectations.

## **11. Signage**

11.1 Clearly worded signs will be sited at the gates, entrance(s) and in prominent positions on all school sites.

Date for Review:  
September 2024