



Queen Mary's College



# **Non-Smoking Policy**



## **Policy Statement**

Queen Mary's College is committed to establishing a smoke-free environment across its campus in order to safeguard the health of its employees, learners, contractors, visitors and site users. Smoking is prohibited anywhere on the College site including in any vehicle parked on college grounds, with the exception of the two designated smoking areas.

Queen Mary's College recognises the legal requirements placed upon it by the Health Act 2006 and its general duty of care to all premises users and responsibilities to students under Every Child Matters. We will protect the rights of all non-smokers to work and study in a smoke-free environment, and we will also take positive steps to encourage smokers to give up. Thus our enforcement of this policy will be supportive, rather than punitive or confrontational. We will aim to raise awareness of all the health issues associated with smoking. However, we also recognise the importance of being good neighbours and have thus created two areas where students and staff are permitted to smoke.

Please note, that in all cases electronic cigarettes are included in our definition of smoking.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis in keeping with the quality assurance cycle of policy review.

Failure by staff or students to comply with this policy will result in disciplinary action being taken under the relevant Disciplinary Procedures.

### **The college will:**

- conduct an annual anti-smoking campaign and make arrangements for "cessation clinics" on college premises.
- provide information on how to make contact with "stop smoking services"
- ensure that the Personal Advisor supports and facilitates contact with relevant health agencies for anyone wishing to give up smoking.
- ensure that the annual tutorial 'Health Week' includes sessions on smoking and health issues, in line with the Every Child Matters agenda, in particular under Staying Healthy and Staying Safe (from the effects of smoke).
- run campaigns on National No-Smoking Day.

### **Enforcement of the above policy**

Comprehensive implementation of the above policy is only achievable with the co-operation of all members of the college community. All should accept the responsibility to politely challenge those who breach the policy, whilst those who are smokers should accept the constraints placed on their smoking habit. Not to do so would compromise the college's legal duty and place the college at risk of breaching the law.

In the event of the policy being breached, the following procedure is advised, whereby direct confrontation should always to be avoided:

- In a polite manner, draw attention to any non-smoking signs and the No Smoking policy.

- Explain that by permitting anyone to smoke in a non-smoking public place, the college itself is also seen as committing an offence.

Failure by staff or students to comply with this policy will result in disciplinary action being taken under the relevant Disciplinary Procedures.