




Vapes / Vaping Policy

Adopted by Netherhall School Governing Body

on: August 31st, 2024

Signed:  **(Neil Watt, Chair of Governors)**

Anticipated review date: August, 2025

Equality Act 2010

Our school is committed to equality both as an employer and a service provider. We welcome our general duty under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations. In addition, we recognise our specific duties to publish information every year about our school population; explain how we have due regard for equality; publish equality objectives which show how we plan to tackle particular inequalities and reduce or remove them.

We recognise our duty to ensure no-one experiences harassment, less favourable treatment or discrimination because of their age, any disability they may have, their ethnicity, colour or national origin, their gender identity or reassignment, their marital or civil partnership status, being pregnant or having recently had a baby, their religion or belief, their sexual identity and orientation.

We also welcome our duty under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to promote community cohesion and British values.

Aim

The removal of vapes / vaping on school premises and in school time to improve health and wellbeing.

Practice

- Students are not to bring vapes into school.
- When using the toilets, students are to leave bags and coats on the hangers installed outside the toilets, where they will be supervised and secure. Students can collect their belongings on departure from the toilet.
- Female students will be able to take sanitary products into the toilets.
- The toilets will be supervised by toilet attendants. The number of students allowed into the toilets at any one time will be the same as the number of cubicles in the toilets.
- Only one person per toilet cubicle at any one time.
- Toilets will be inspected after use and the cisterns have been securely fastened.
- If your child is suspected of vaping in the school toilets, the pastoral team, their head of year and an assistant will use a vape detector / bag search in order to assess as to whether the student is in possession of a vape.
- Possession of a vape will result in its immediate confiscation. The student will receive a one hour after school detention and be supervised at break and lunchtimes for at least a week of school; repeated transgression will result in a more serious sanction.
- Refusal to be scanned, bag searched or hand the vape to the member of staff will result in parents / carers being requested to attend school to remove the vape from the student. The student will also be given a suspension (fixed-term exclusion).
- Parents / carers will be asked to ensure that their child does not bring to or use a vape in school again.
- The sixth form toilets situated by student services are for the exclusive use of sixth formers and out of bounds to students in years 7-11.

A joint approach with parents / carers, students and the school all working together for the benefit of our young people is the only way that this will succeed, and we can create a safer and more appropriate environment for our young people to grow up healthily, with positive behaviours and attitudes for their future.

If school staff are provided with information about where the students are buying vapes from, this will be passed on to the Police.