



**regency**source

success through partnership

## Smoking & Vaping Policy

October 2024

### **Introduction:**

At Regency Source Alternative Provision, we work with our students and families to educate against smoking and the use of e-cigarettes. We are committed to promoting health and welfare and as a quality employer and provider of education, recognise that all persons are entitled to have an environment which is smoke / vapour free. Therefore, we ensure that everyone is protected from the dangers of smoke / vapour.

With the introduction of the Smoke Free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006, smoking is illegal in certain wholly or substantially enclosed public places. As well as being an offence to smoke in no smoking premises, it is also an offence to knowingly permit smoking in no smoking premises. Owners of premises and individuals may be subject to substantial statutory fines if this legislation is breached. As a result, Regency Source Alternative Provision is responsible for monitoring adherence to this policy, and has responsibility for ensuring compliance with the law.

Smoking will NOT be permitted (this includes e-cigarettes or vaping) in any part of the provision's premises.

- Smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death and ill health in the UK
- Second-hand smoke – “breathing other people’s tobacco smoke” Second-hand smoke is dangerous, especially for children. People who breathe in second-hand smoke regularly are more likely to get the same diseases as smokers, including lung cancer and heart disease (NHS)
- The Government’s White Paper ‘Choosing health – making healthy choices’, identifies plans to place restrictions on smoking within the workplace
- The provision under the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) has a duty of care to provide a healthy work environment
- Everyone has the right to a smoke-free environment
- Provisions (and schools) have a major role to play in health education and prevention
- Most people start smoking and become addicted to nicotine when they are still children. Those whose parents or siblings smoke are around three times more likely to smoke than children living in non-smoking households. Children who start smoking at the youngest ages are more likely to smoke heavily and find it harder to give up. These smokers are at the greatest risk of developing smoking related diseases.

The enforcement of this smoking policy will be the responsibility of all staff within the provision. Our disciplinary procedure will apply for dealing with employees who breach the smoking ban at work. Employees who raise genuine concerns about breaches of this policy will be protected from victimisation.

This policy applies to all students, employees, parents, visitors, members of the public, contractors and others working or using the provision's premises or vehicles. This policy will be clearly advertised and visitors to the provision will be informed of it.

Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to leave the premises – including students. The smoking policy will apply to all activities held on our premises including those held during ‘school’ hours and out of ‘school’ hours. This includes all social and sporting events, and any meetings organised, which are attended by employees as part of their work and /or visitors to such meetings/events.

Employees should avoid being seen smoking in public in sight of pupils, parents and visitors in order to enforce a comprehensive approach.

Non-compliance by pupils will be dealt with in agreement of the provision's behaviour management policy.

There will be **NO** designated smoking area provided within the provision's premises.

**Policy Development:**

This policy has been developed to reflect the most recent Government guidelines, current thinking and work in collaboration with local authorities.

This policy is available at:

- Online: [www.regencysource.co.uk](http://www.regencysource.co.uk)
- On site from the top floor office
- Child friendly versions are available on the website and upon request

This policy is reviewed and evaluated throughout the academic year and updated regularly.

**Purpose:**

This policy aims to provide a working environment conducive to good health and productive working. To ensure our provision presents a positive image to visitors and members of the public and complies with legislation regarding no smoking including:

- Health Act 2006
- The Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006
- The Smoke-free (Exemptions and Vehicles) Regulations 2007
- The Smoke-free (Vehicle Operators and Penalty Notices) Regulations 2007

The policy aims to discourage students (and employees) from smoking and vaping for the following reasons:

- It is injurious to health
- It is addictive
- It promotes (within an educational setting) secretive and unsafe behaviour
- It presents health and safety risks
- There is evidence to suggest that those who smoke are more likely to try other addictive chemicals such as drugs.

It has been written to ensure that students (and employees) are educated about the dangers and consequences of smoking and vaping. It is supported in the PSHE education run at the provision.

**Smoking / Vaping on site:**

Vaping is **not** permitted at all whilst on site either as a member of staff or as a student. Vaping must not take place during paid work time. If staff leave the site to vape this is only permitted during normal authorised breaks. Vaping must not take place in a location that will cause reputational damage to the provision for example around the premises.

### Students:

Students are prohibited to own, purchase or use a vape, e-cigarette or smoking at any point whilst on site. If a student is known to, or seen to be using, purchasing or in possession of any of the above items, then we reserve the right to remove the item and we will either, with permission from parents/carers, destroy or hand over the items to an adult with parental responsibility.

If a student refuses to comply, we will contact those with parental responsibility to either collect or escort the student home. Failing that, we will, with consent, take the student home.

The provision is a no-smoking site because of the significant fire risks. Moreover, there is no toleration of smoking tobacco or the use of e-cigarettes through tacit recognition of unofficial designated smoking areas around the provision or turning a blind eye to a pupil's movements and behaviour.

Smoking and vaping paraphernalia are prohibited items at Regency Source Alternative Provision and should not be brought onto the premises or taken on any trips or outings that take place as part of our enrichment activities. A pupil may be searched if they are suspected of carrying such items.

Sanctions for any breach to the rules about smoking and vaping are set out below.

- Pupils who are caught or found to have been smoking / vaping will ordinarily be removed from site either by those with PR or a member of staff if given consent by someone with PR.
- Further refusal to comply would then form a breach of behaviour contracts and will therefore form part of our positive behaviour management policy and procedures.

### Staff:

As a member of staff, it is prohibited to use a vape, e-cigarette or smoking at any point whilst on site. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

### Education and Publicity:

Suitable posters and awareness of no smoking / vaping are displayed around the site.

As part of our ongoing PSHE work, we address issues such as: smoking, vaping, drugs and addiction. For more information about our PSHE, see our curriculum map.

### Support:

We actively promote non-smoking / vaping and support those that wish to stop smoking / vaping. We will support employees wishing to give up smoking / vaping by advertising NHS Stop Smoking Services. Where practicable, requests from employees to attend smoking cessation programmes during working hours will be supported.

Further support can be found at:

[www.nhs.uk/smokefree/help-and-advice/support](http://www.nhs.uk/smokefree/help-and-advice/support)

speak to a trained advisor call 0300 123 1044

or visit [www.regencysource.co.uk](http://www.regencysource.co.uk)

**Monitoring and Review:**

The Senior Leadership Team will monitor the effectiveness of the Smoking and Vaping Policy.

The Smoking and Vaping Policy and all associated policies and procedures are subject to an annual review. In the event of any significant changes within the organisation e.g. changes in legislation and/or changes to management arrangements within this timeframe, Regency Source reserves the right to make whatever changes it deems appropriate.

Any updated policies and procedures will be made available on the shared drive.

Policy Created	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	M Thorne (Head of AP)
Policy Adopted	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	SLT
Policy Reviewed	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	SLT