

SHIMNA INTEGRATED COLLEGE

SMOKING POLICY

Background

Smoking is an addictive habit acquired in childhood which causes an appalling amount of preventable death, disability and suffering. In Northern Ireland, over 2,500 people die every year because of smoking.

Passive smoking, once thought only to be a nuisance, is now also acknowledged to be harmful to health.

This college has a responsibility to promote healthy lifestyles and, in pursuit of this, teaches students about the hazards of smoking as part of health education. The college wishes to provide an environment which complements and does not negate this teaching. It also wishes to protect the health of staff, users of and visitors to the college.

Consequently the Board of Governors has adopted this policy relating to smoking.

Objectives of the Policy

- (a) to protect non-smokers from environmental tobacco smoke in college and its environments;
- (b) to demonstrate the college's commitment to promoting the health of its staff, its students and community;
- (c) to educate students and staff about the serious health risks of smoking and the substantial benefits of stopping;
- (d) to provide support for those who wish to stop smoking;
- (e) to effect savings through reduced fire risk, cleaning costs and insurance premiums.

The College Policy

- (a) The college has been considered a non smoking environment from 1st September 2004. Smoking will not be permitted anywhere in the college premises or grounds.
- (b) Students may not smoke while on the college premises, nor while wearing college uniform.
- (c) The college prospectus will include a statement that the college is a non-smoking premises and grounds.

(d) No Smoking signs will be displayed in order to inform visitors that the college is a non-smoking premises and grounds.

(e) Those leasing, hiring or borrowing the premises will be informed of the college no smoking policy.

Implementation of the Policy

(a) Members of staff will be given a copy of the policy.

(b) Parents/guardians will be informed of the policy.

(c) All visitors, including contractors and delivery personnel, will be informed of the policy.

(d) Sixth form contracts will include a no smoking clause.

The Board of Governors agrees with, and fully supports the contents and implementation of this policy.