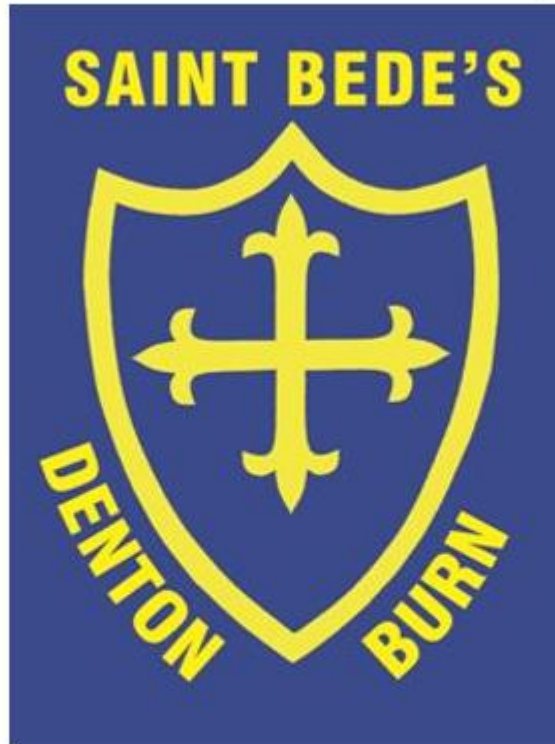


# St Bede's Catholic Primary School



*As one*

*we learn together,*

*play together,*

*pray together,*

*as one*

## Non Smoking Policy

Date reviewed: October 2025

Date of next review: October 2026



## **Rationale**

At St Bede's Catholic Primary School, we know that smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death or illness in our society. Passive smoking is also very harmful to health and it is important to ensure that all of our children are given accurate and informed information to allow them to make sensible health choices and develop a healthy lifestyle.

## **Aims and objectives**

We aim to:

- Make our school building and school grounds smoke free areas – this includes the use of vapes
- Inform parents and visitors of our policy
- Help children know and understand the dangers of smoking, and the harmful effects that smoking can have on their bodies;
- Provide children with the knowledge and information necessary for them to make responsible choices in relation to smoking;
- Equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressure to smoke, either from their peer group, or from society in general.

## **Organisation**

The dangers of smoking are addressed in Upper Key Stage 2, in our programme of RSE/PSHE, with advice and support from the Health Authority. As well as teaching the children about the effects that smoking has on the body, we engage them in discussions about the reasons why people start to smoke, and what they themselves should do if other people encourage them to try cigarettes. Such discussions are conducted in a sensitive manner as we are aware that some parent's may be smokers. We explain that it is illegal for cigarettes to be sold to people under 16 years of age, but our aim is for children to refrain from smoking not only for that reason, but also because they know that smoking is an unhealthy lifestyle choice.

The dangers of smoking sometimes arise as an issue in science lessons at Key Stage 2, when children learn about the way substances affect the body. When such an issue arises, class teachers deal with it in context, and answer the children's questions to the best of their ability, taking care to explain that smoking is dangerous, and should be avoided.

Parents and carers may view any of the anti-smoking related teaching materials that we use in our school.

## **School staff**

We do not allow smoking on any part of the school site, including the school grounds, this includes vaping. If any members of staff do wish to smoke, they must leave the school site. Should any member of staff be found smoking on the school premises in contravention of this policy, we would consider this a serious breach of the terms of employment.

## **Monitoring and review**

It is the role of the Headteacher to ensure that this policy is fully implemented. Every two years, or earlier if necessary, the governors review this policy as part of their curriculum committee's monitoring of the effectiveness of the school's RSE/PSHE programme.

