

Scoil Mhuire U.R. 11894 i

No Smoking Policy- update following recent legislation.

Following legislation (29th March 2004) smoking is forbidden in enclosed places of work.

Smoking is also strictly forbidden in Primary Schools including the school yard (circular Eastern Health Board 11th March 1991).

This mandate has been updated recently to include a 100% ban on smoking of any sort to include e-cigarettes and vaping.

The Board of Management of Scoil Mhuire has drawn up the following policy (September 1st 2004):

As a result of this legislation it is the duty of all schools to ban smoking in all areas of a school or college.

Rationale:

- that all of its work places are smoke free and
- that all pupils, employees, parents, contractors, visitors etc. to the school have the right to work in a smoke free, healthy environment while attending at this school.
- Pupils, especially at Primary school, should have good role models and smoking is not one of the things they should see,
- Smoking is prohibited in the school grounds with no exception. The areas are defined as from the front school gates, yards, hall, school buildings itself and grassed areas.
- ***There is no obligation on the Board to provide an outdoor smoking area.***
- Parents and guardians are not permitted to smoke within the school grounds.

This protocol is linked to the

- Safeguarding Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Healthy Lifestyle as taught through Social , Personal and Health Education (SPHE)

IMPLEMENTATION

Overall responsibility for the implementation of the Policy rests with the Board of Management. All staff and those who visit /use the building or the grounds of Scoil Mhuire will be obliged to adhere to and facilitate the implementation of the 100% ban on smoking.

Education about tobacco and health

As part of the SPHE programme pupils will receive lessons on the dangers of smoking. There will be a strong link between home and school on this topic and support from the Parents Association Committee is welcomed and appreciated

No Smoking' signs will be placed strategically around the school.

The '**No Smoking'** policy will be given to all members of staff and copies will be placed around the school. Copies will be available in the office.

Parents will be informed in the normal ways, email and website, of the policy and of any amendments made to it.

Complaints concerning this policy must be referred to the Principal who will deal with an infringement informally in the first instance and a subsequent infringement by the same person(s) will be reported to the Board of Management.

Infringement of any aspect of the policy must be brought to the attention of the Principal.

Ratification :

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management of Scoil Mhuire in June 2018.

The policy will be reviewed on an on-going basis, and/or in the light of any new legislation..

Review: *February, 2020*

Signed: *Josephine Henry.*

Chairperson, Board of Management, Scoil Mhuire

SANCTIONS FOR INFRINGEMENT OF THE NO SMOKING POLICY

Staff:

1. A formal verbal warning is given to the person concerned by the Principal within which the staff member is informed that any further infringement of the No Smoking Policy will be reported to the Board of Management and will be considered a disciplinary matter.
2. He/she is informed that this school and its environs is a “**No Smoking**” environment and that prosecution will result in a further infringement.
3. A record will be kept in the office of any one found smoking within the grounds of the school.
4. Decisions of the Board regarding repeated infringements will be in line with legislation regarding NO Smoking in any part of a school.

Adults – Parents, Guardians, Visitors, Reps, People contracted to work in Scoil Mhuire.

The Approach to infringements will be dealt with in the same way as they will be dealt with for Staff Members – as above.

Pupils

1. If a pupil is found with cigarettes in her possession the cigarettes will be confiscated and her parents informed immediately.
2. If a pupil is found smoking within the school grounds her parents will be called to the school. The pupil will be given a written warning and the parents asked to sign a contract guaranteeing this will not happen again. Parents will be encouraged to talk to their children about the dangers involved.
3. Pupils will be sanctioned in line with the school’s code of behaviour.(Suspension)