

SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE

SCHOOL POLICY JUNE 2004

St. Peter's College Secondary School Wexford.

Rationale:

Exposure to second-hand/Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS), also known as passive smoking is a cause of disease, including lung cancer and heart disease, in third parties. Neither the simple separation of smokers and non-smokers within the same airspace, nor the provision of ventilation can eliminate exposure to ETS and the consequent health effects of such exposure. This policy has been developed to protect all students, staff and visitors from exposure to ETS, to ensure compliance with legal obligations and to ensure a safe working/learning environment.

Policy:

It is the policy of St. Peter's College Secondary School, that all its workplaces are smoke-free and that employees have a right to work in a smoke-free environment. Smoking is prohibited within the entire school boundary with no exceptions. This policy applies to all students, parents/guardians, employees, contractors and visitors.

Implementation:

Overall responsibility for policy implementation rests with the Board of Management. All staff have an obligation to adhere to, and facilitate the implementation of this policy. The Principal shall inform all existing employees, consultants and contractors of the policy and their role in the implementation and monitoring of the policy. The Principal shall make all new and prospective employees, consultants and contractors aware of the policy on recruitment. All students and parents/guardians shall be informed of this policy.

Infringements:

Infringements by students shall be dealt with in accordance with the school's "Code of Behaviour".

Infringements by staff will be dealt with under the A.S.T.I /J.M.B agreed procedures for discipline, grievances and complaints

Employees, consultants, contractors and visitors who contravene legislation prohibiting smoking in the workplace are also liable to a criminal prosecution with an associated fine.

Infringements by consultants, contractors and visitors shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedure set out below.

Procedure if a consultant, contractor or other visitor smokes in contravention of Section 47 of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act that prohibits smoking in the workplace

- 1. Draw the person's attention to the "No Smoking" signs and advise them that they are committing an offence by smoking on the premises.**
- 2. Advise the person that it is also an offence for the Board of Management to permit anyone to smoke within the school boundaries in contravention of the law.**
- 3. Advise the person that the school has a smoke-free policy to ensure a safe working environment for employees and students**
- 4. If a person continues to smoke, advise them that they are in breach of the policy, they will be reported to the Environmental Health Officer and that they are liable to criminal prosecution and possible fines.**