

SMOKING POLICY

Last reviewed:	February 2020
Next review due:	February 2022
Reviewed by:	Designated Safeguarding Lead Head of Sixth Form Head of The International School

1. POLICY

Smoking (or the possession of smoking materials) by students is not allowed either in school, in the local surroundings or in any other place where that student could be linked to, or associated with d'Overbroeck's. This policy also covers vaping 'e-cigarettes'

A student is in breach of the smoking rules if any of the following apply:

- Being seen with a cigarette (lit or unlit) eg in one's mouth or hand;
- Being seen to discard a cigarette (lit or unlit);
- Being in possession of cigarettes or vaping products, eg in one's pocket, bag or locker.

d'Overbroeck's particularly recognises the significant health risks that the smoking of cigarettes poses. The school disapproves of smoking in any context or environment and takes very seriously its duty to educate and protect the children and adults of the school community from the effects of smoking – both active and passive.

The main concern leading to this policy is the risk to the health of the smoker and others. Additional factors have included: the danger of starting a fire within school buildings, physical damage, smell, mess, and the effect on the reputation of everyone in the school community.

We invite parents, carers and guardians to play their part in discouraging young people from smoking; and will work with them to safeguard and support students.

The procedures we are currently using to discourage smoking are as follows:

- **Education** – about the effects of smoking is contained within the PD programme at Years 7-11, the PSHE programme at the International School, and the Enrichment programme at the Sixth Form;
- **Raising awareness** – using a variety of media and activities;
- **Counselling/cessation support** – from specialist staff/agencies with the appropriate expertise for those wishing to quit smoking;
- **Sanctions** – as described in the following section.

2. DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

2.1 The consequences for a student of the school caught in breach of the smoking rules will be as follows:

- **Smoking in a building whilst at school or on a school trip:**

Any student found to be smoking in a building will be automatically suspended:

- First occasion: one-day external suspension;
- Second occasion: three-day external suspension;
- Third occasion/continued smoking in a building is likely to result in permanent exclusion.

- **Smoking on school grounds or on the streets bordering any school site/Boarding House, or being found in possession of smoking materials:**

- First occasion: a letter home to inform parents and a meeting with the appropriate first line of support at the school (Director of Studies/Form Tutor) for help with smoking education and cessation. The letter will state what the escalation process will be.
- Second occasion: a further letter home and a meeting with the Head of the student's particular section. The second letter will state that should the student be caught again; he/she will be asked to attend a meeting with the Pastoral Director with the student's parents/guardian
- Third occasion: the student's parents/guardian will be contacted and asked to attend a meeting with the Pastoral Director to discuss the repeated breach of school rules.

2.2 **A student's place at the school will be put at risk by their continued involvement with smoking.**

3. POLICY NOTES

3.1 After the first time of being in breach of the smoking policy, the school's response to subsequent occasions will in part depend on the period of time that has elapsed since the previous occasion.

3.2 There is particular concern to prevent younger students smoking, and to this end a student may be asked to empty their pockets or bags when there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that they have smoking materials.

3.3 Students who are found to have cigarettes in their lockers or in their possession will have them removed and disposed of. This will not be classed as a breach of the school's smoking policy. Any search of a student's locker will be conducted in line with the school's locker and search policies.

3.4 A student may request that the cigarettes are returned to their parents instead of being destroyed.

3.5 A student found supplying cigarettes will be asked to attend a meeting with the Pastoral Director and his/her Form Tutor or Director of Studies.