

# Coláiste Chiaráin



**No Smoking Policy**

## There is a NO Smoking Policy in operation in this school

This policy by emphasising both the physical safety of a smoke free school and the need to help young people to learn about the health risks associated with smoking, underpins one of our stated goals - *“To foster student wellbeing in all areas of college life”*.

### Aim:

- To create a smoke free school environment.
- To adhere to legal requirements that smoking is not permitted in the school, on the school grounds, and on school buses.

### Objectives:

The objectives of the policy are:

- To provide a smoke free school environment for everyone.
- To present young people with a consistent message regarding tobacco and drug use and to provide appropriate role models.

### Rationale

- Since 26<sup>th</sup> January 2004, as part of Section 47 of the Public Health Tobacco Acts 2002 and 2003, smoking has been prohibited in all workplaces and enclosed spaces, including schools.
- The school has a duty of care to provide a healthy working environment for all students and staff.
- Every employer is obliged to protect the health of staff, customers, residents and visitors to their premises
- Everyone has the right to a smoke-free environment.
- Schools have a major role to play in health education and prevention.

### E-Cigarettes

While e-cigarettes produce vapour rather than smoke, Coláiste Chiaráin also prohibits “vaping” or smoking of e-cigarettes. For the purpose of this policy “e- cigarettes” shall be treated in the same manner as tobacco cigarettes and the whole policy shall apply.

## Restrictions on smoking within the workplace

- Smoking is NOT permitted in any part of the school's premises or environs.
- The enforcement of this total smoking ban is the responsibility of all staff.
- A continuum of interventions and sanctions will apply to students who breach the smoking ban, see Appendix A.
- This policy applies to students, members of the Board of Management, parents, visitors, members of the public, contractors and others working in, or using the school's premises or vehicles.
- This No Smoking policy will be clearly displayed on college premises.
- Any individuals external to the organisation who deliberately breach the policy will be requested to leave the premises.
- The smoking policy will apply to all activities/events/meetings held on college premises.
- The School may be subject to inspections from the Environmental Health Officer (HSE) to ensure that smoke free measures are implemented.

## Designated smoking areas

- There will be NO designated smoking areas provided within the school premises.

## Vehicles:

- The smoking ban will apply to all school owned/hired/leased vehicles. No-one will be allowed to smoke inside any school owned/hired/leased vehicles.
- Employees are asked to refrain from smoking in their own vehicles, when used on school business and when carrying passengers.

## Help with Smoking Cessation and Prevention

The college will support staff and students wishing to give up smoking by advertising and promoting external smoking cessation services and through regular health promotion activities.

The college can provide, on request, contact details of organisations who can assist those who are addicted to smoking and wish to give up. For example [Quit.ie](http://Quit.ie)

The SPHE and Wellbeing programmes, delivered at Junior Cycle, seeks to educate students in the health issues relating to smoking.

Coláiste Chiaráin welcomes outside speakers to address students and staff on the dangers of smoking and ways to stop smoking.

## **Appendix A.**

# **Smoking Policy Sanctions**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Breach of No Smoking Policy**

- **Lunchtime Detention**
- **Student provided with writing pack on the health risks associated with Smoking**
- **Parents/Guardian Notified**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Breach**

- **Friday Detention (Evidence based project on effects of smoking to be completed-6 pages)**
- **Parents/Guardian Notified**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Breach**

- **Formal meeting with parents followed by Friday Detention**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Breach**

- **Parents required to attend a further meeting and advised to engage with the colleges guidance and counselling service or external agencies with a view to providing their son/daughter with assistance in their efforts to quit smoking.**
- **College to provide parents/guardian with contact details of relevant agencies.**

### **5<sup>th</sup> Breach**

- **Parents/Guardian Notified and requested to attend meeting.**
- **1 day Suspension imposed**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Breach**

- **Parents/Guardian Notified and requested to attend meeting. Consequences of further breaches explained.**
- **2 day Suspension imposed**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Breach**

- **Parents/Guardian Notified and requested to attend meeting. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) informed that any further breach will result in referral to the Board of Management.**
- **3 day Suspension imposed**

### **8<sup>th</sup> Breach**

- **Parent(s)/Guardian(s) notified of the breach and informed that the matter will now be referred to the Board of Management for consideration of sanction up to and including permanent exclusion.**

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management of Coláiste Chiaráin on

\_\_\_\_\_ and is due for review \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management