

SMOKE AND VAPE FREE



YOUR SAFETY
+ WELLBEING



SEPTEMBER 2019

UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON

<https://staff.brighton.ac.uk/safety/Pages/Health-and-safety.aspx>

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SMOKE AND VAPE FREE CAMPUS POLICY

Purpose

The “Towards a Smokefree Generation, A Tobacco Control Plan for England”, The Department of Health, 2017 and the ‘Working for a Healthier Tomorrow’ 2008 review set out a vision to develop an England, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone’s responsibility.

The UCEA Wellbeing Strategic Plan 2015-2020 also looks to support Universities in developing Healthy Workplace frameworks. The creation of a smoke and vape free campus is a key initial component in the development of a Healthy UoB Framework and is also a key recommendation within our Wellbeing strategy.

The University, as a national teaching and research institution, with a strong focus on health care and education, is committed to promoting health and wellbeing. The University has a leadership role as an outstanding employer and is an important influencer in the cultural and economic life of the South East of England. The UoB is also a key partner within the Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust.

**“Smoking costs society £13.9 billion every year,
or £1805 per smoker per year”**

Smoking is one of the world's biggest public health threats killing more than seven million people globally a year. Around 890,000 of these deaths are due to exposure to second-hand smoke (Source: WHO). In England, there are almost 77,900 (2016) smoking related deaths each year. One in every two long-term smokers will die from a tobacco related disease (Source: HSE).

The University of Brighton aims to create a healthier, smoke and vape free, environment for its staff, students, contractors and visitors. As a result, smoking and vaping will be prohibited on all University campuses from 1st September 2019, other than in designated zones.

The government's new Tobacco Control Plan for England includes a commitment to 'maximize the availability of safer alternatives to smoking'. It makes clear that e-cigarettes have an important part to play in achieving the ambition for a smokefree generation and the University of Brighton recognises and supports that view.

Professor John Newton, Director for Health Improvement at PHE said:

Our new review reinforces the finding that vaping is a fraction of the risk of smoking, at least 95% less harmful, and of negligible risk to bystanders. Yet over half of smokers either falsely believe that vaping is as harmful as smoking or just don't know.

'Vaping' includes the use of electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic pipes or other such electronic delivery systems intended to simulate smoking, whether they deliver a nicotine dose or not.

Scope

This policy has been developed to:

- *Improve the health, safety and wellbeing of staff, students, contractors* and visitors**,*
- *Protect all employees, students, contractors and visitors from exposure to all types of second-hand smoke,*
- *Enhance the look of our estate and improve the control of toxic waste and support sustainability*

- *Comply with the Health Act 2006 and the Regulations made under the Act,*
- *To support staff and students to quit smoking and switch to lower risk vaping activities as part of that transition*

*Contractors includes any individual who provides a service to the University, either directly or indirectly or who is employed or engaged by a third party service provider to the University.

**Visitors includes anyone availing of the University's facilities, including sporting, accommodation, theatre and dining facilities, as well as people availing of University recreational facilities or land.

'A Healthy University aspires to create a learning environment and organisational culture that enhances health, wellbeing and sustainability'

Policy Details

It is the policy of the University of Brighton that its campuses are smoking and vaping free, other than within designated zones. This policy applies to all staff, students, contractors, visitors, and any other persons who enter university grounds and facilities for any purpose. The policy prohibits smoking and vaping anywhere on any campus other than designated zones. Separate zones will be provided for smoking and vaping activities.

This policy incorporates the statutory requirements of the Health act 2006 and the recommendations of the Report “Towards a Smokefree Generation, A Tobacco Control Plan for England” The Department of Health 2017.

This policy sets out to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for all staff, students, visitors and contractors. The policy applies to the entire campus, including:

- buildings and residences,
- doorways and entrances,
- footpaths, parkland, roads and car parks,
- pitches and sports facilities (including spectator spaces),
- the curtilage, balconies, terraces, outdoor seating of accommodation, restaurant and club/bar facilities,
- cars parked on university campus grounds,
- bicycle and bus shelters on university grounds,
- University owned and operated vehicles,

In addition to the main campus locations, this policy also applies to off campus student accommodation owned by the University and any other locations owned, leased or operated by the University. This policy replaces the University’s No Smoking Policy 2013.

Implementation

The ultimate responsibility for the implementation of this policy rests with the University; however, each staff member and student is expected to understand their personal obligation to implement and comply with this policy. It is the duty of each staff member and student to care for their own safety, health and welfare.

The implementation of this policy will be supported by appropriate communications to all relevant parties, as set out below.

It remains the responsibility of Heads of Departments, and in the case of non-departmental areas, the responsibilities of those officers or supervisors in charge of such areas, to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the requirements of the Health Act 2006. The University disciplinary procedures in relation to staff and students will apply. The term “Head of Department” includes all officers of the University who are directly responsible for their own work and that of their subordinates, if any. Besides the Heads of Academic Schools, the term is taken to include Heads of Administrative and

Professional Service Departments, Directors of Research Centers and Institutes, and Managers of any premises administered by the University. All line managers have a responsibility to ensure that University policies are implemented and appropriate actions taken.

Intervention and Enforcement

All staff and students are empowered to contribute to the enforcement of this policy, by reminding anyone they see in breach of the policy to desist and to comply with University policy.

Health Promoting Universities and Colleges transform the health and sustainability of our current and future societies, strengthen communities and contribute to the wellbeing of people, places and the planet...They infuse health into everyday operations, business practices and academic mandates. By doing so, they enhance the success of our institutions; create campus cultures of compassion, wellbeing, equity and social justice; improve the health of the people who live, learn, work, play and love on our campuses; and strengthen the ecological, social and economic sustainability of our communities and wider society.

[Okanagan Charter for Health Promoting Universities and Colleges](#)

As an institution, smoking and vaping zones have been provided and we respect an individual's right to choose to smoke or vape. Smokers and persons using electronic cigarettes or vaping should also respect others and prevent exposure to second hand smoke or vapor. Staff and students should be polite and respectful at all times, abusive behavior should always be reported. Abusive behavior can be reported to managers and Campus Security staff.

Smoking Cessation Programmes

The Occupational Health Service will direct staff, who wish to cease smoking to the appropriate primary health care smoking cessation programmes.

The Student Health Service within UoB will provide first line interventions to students and refer as appropriate to the appropriate primary care smoking cessation provider.

In addition, information on smoking cessation is available through the <https://smokefree.gov/> and <https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree>

Call the free Smokeline on 0800 84 84 84

'Our vision is nothing less than to create a smokefree generation'

Steve Brine (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health and Primary Care)

Communication

The Smoke and Vape Free Campus Policy will be communicated at relevant staff briefings and through induction programmes as well other relevant forms of communication to our staff and student audiences. Staff members are required to have a clear understanding of the policy and line managers should ensure that all university policies are satisfactorily implemented. The policy is available on the website.

The University smoking and vaping free campus policy will be communicated to visitors through appropriate signage at entrances to the campuses.

It is the responsibility of staff members managing contractors directly, or engaging outside service providers, to inform contractors and service providers that the campus is smoking and vaping free.

The University or its subsidiaries where appropriate, shall inform all commercial and residential tenants that the campus is smoking and vaping free.

It is the responsibility of organisers of conferences and events on campus to make all attendees aware that the campus is smoking and vaping free.

Smoking and Vaping Zones

Maps of your smoking and vaping zones are available via the web site.

Review

This policy will be reviewed two years after the implementation date.



University of Brighton

This campus is
smoke and vape free
except for designated zones