



SOAS Smoking Policy

Latest Review 18/07/16

INTRODUCTION

Smoking is a major cause of illness and early death and the government took active measures to decrease smoking behaviour by reducing the number of public areas in which smoking is permitted.

On July 1st 2007, the Government introduced a new law to make virtually all enclosed public places and workplaces in England smoke free. A smoke free country ensures a healthier environment, so everyone can socialise and work free from passive smoke inhalation.

PURPOSE

This policy has been developed to protect all employees, service users, students and visitors from exposure to second-hand smoke and to assist compliance with the Health Act 2006.

Exposure to second hand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other serious illnesses. Ventilation of separating smokers and non-smokers within the same airspace does not completely stop potentially dangerous exposure.

BENEFITS

The benefits of operating this policy include reduced health and safety risks relating to fire and less staff absenteeism as a result of the illnesses associated with smoking. In addition it will help foster a view of the university as a responsible employer as well as ensuring compliance with legislation

POLICY

It is the policy of SOAS that all our premises are smoke free, and all employees and students have a right to work and study in a smoke free environment. The policy came into effect on Sunday, 1st July 2007. Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed and substantially enclosed premises in the workplace. This policy applies to all employees, consultants, contractors, students or members and visitors.

IMPLEMENTATION

Overall responsibility for policy implementation and review rests with The Director. However, all staff and students are obliged to adhere to, and support

the implementation of the policy. All existing employees, consultants and contractors shall be informed of the policy. All new personnel will receive a copy of the policy on recruitment/induction.

Appropriate 'no-smoking' signs will be clearly displayed at the entrances to and within the premises.

E-Cigarettes/Vaping

While SOAS recognises the benefits of E-cigarettes as an aid in quitting smoking, we do not allow the use of them on SOAS premises. Staff, Students or Visitors wishing to operate E-cigarettes or vaping equipment are respectfully asked to do so outside of the premises, as smokers of traditional cigarettes are required to.

NON-COMPLIANCE

Disciplinary action may be taken in accordance with the appropriate Disciplinary Procedure if a member of staff or student does not comply with the School's Smoking Policy.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed by the health and safety manager when dictated by legislation or internal procedure change.

HELP TO STOP SMOKING

There are a range of services to assist smokers who wish to give up:

NHS Smoke free helpline: 0300 123 1044

NHS Smoke free chat facility: <https://quitnow.smokefree.nhs.uk/ChatTool>

NHS Smoke free find your local stop smoking services:

<http://www.nhs.uk/smokefree/help-and-advice/local-support-services-helplines>

NHS stop smoking treatments: [http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Smoking-\(quitting\)/Pages/Treatment.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Smoking-(quitting)/Pages/Treatment.aspx)