

NO SMOKING POLICY

The No Smoking Policy outlined below takes effect from 1st January 2009. This Policy replaces the previous ‘Smoking Policy’, last revised in September 2007, and is designed to ensure compliance with the No Smoking Regulations made under Part 1 of the Health Act 2006. New legislation creates a requirement for all enclosed places of work and enclosed buildings which are accessible by members of the public to be smoke free.

New responsibilities are placed upon all persons to refrain from smoking in designated areas. Employers are specifically required to display appropriate notices at all building entrances and in ‘works’ vehicles and to take steps to ensure compliance is met. No Smoking signs will also be displayed in other areas defined within the legislation as ‘substantially enclosed’ where it is also an offence to smoke.

General Policy

The University of Kent has previously declared its intention to be a No Smoking University. The University’s premises will be smoke free, however smoking in designated shelters and in the open, away from buildings, will be permitted. This Policy, will, as a minimum, comply with current legislation. In some areas, for the health benefit of staff and students who do not smoke, the requirements of the Policy may be more onerous than is required by law. To safeguard health, **smoking is NOT permitted within 5 metres of ANY building** unless it is in an outside area immediately adjacent to one of the College or other bars listed below.

Work Areas

Smoking is **not** permitted in any work areas. Heads of Schools/Departments will be responsible for ensuring that arrangements are put in place to maintain the Policy in all enclosed or substantially enclosed workplaces.

College Bars and Student Bars

Smoking is **not** permitted in any College, inner gardens or courtyards within the College precincts, or student bars, but may be permitted on adjacent outside areas only, as follows :-

- Keynes exterior terrace
- The Gulbenkian exterior terrace
- The Gulbenkian Café at Medway exterior area
- Dolche Vita exterior terrace
- Mungo’s exterior terrace
- Woody’s Bar exterior drinking area
- Smoking shelters outside The Venue

Electronic Cigarettes

Electronic cigarettes, also known as 'E Cigarettes', will be treated in the same way as if they were tobacco products. Their use is therefore **not** allowed except in the areas adjacent to student bars detailed above.

Student Accommodation

Smoking is **not** permitted in any room or communal area of student accommodation. The 5m rule above also applies here.

Kent Union

Kent Union's No Smoking Policy must comply with the requirements laid out in this Policy.

Smoking Breaks

Staff who leave their workplace during working hours to smoke should only do so with the approval of their line-managers.

Support Strategy

The Medical Centre in Giles Lane has a trained counsellor to assist smokers to give up smoking through the 'Stop Smoking Support' programme. Support can be arranged for a 'one off' payment, equivalent to the cost of a prescription, which will pay for 12 weeks' support. This support will include appropriate counselling and nicotine replacement therapy if required. Other information is available on the Occupational Health website.

Smoking Shelters

The University is not legally obliged to supply these. However, where funds permit, some additional shelters may be erected at some time in future to accommodate smokers.

Implementation of this Policy

The University is committed to improving and maintaining the health of its students and members of staff, in areas where it has influence to do so. The University will comply with the requirements of the 2006 Health Act and will ensure that staff, students and visitors comply with this Policy when on University premises.

There are significant penalties for anybody prosecuted for smoking in a no smoking area and penalties for organisations that fail to take reasonable steps to ensure compliance.

Supporting compliance with the law and the University's No Smoking Policy will be the responsibility of Heads of Schools/Departments and line management.

Students' Heads of Schools/Departments (or other designated members of staff) are responsible for ensuring student compliance with the University's No Smoking Policy and for reporting non-

compliance by a student to the Master of the student's college who has responsibility for disciplinary action.

29 January 2009
(Updated 28.10.2013)