



HND Children's Care  
Unit 1 Eagle Works  
Office 3  
Leek New Road  
Stoke-On-Trent  
England  
ST6 2LE  
Tel: 07495957773

**Home Name:** Hamida House

**Provider:** HND Children's Care Ltd.

**Address:** 2 Earlswood Road, Birches Head, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 6UF

**Home Type:** One-bed solo placement children's home

### **Smoking and Vaping Policy for Staff**

Hamida House is committed to providing a safe, healthy, nurturing, and child-centred environment for children, staff, visitors, and professionals. The home recognises the significant health risks associated with smoking and vaping, as well as the potential safeguarding, fire safety, environmental, and role modelling concerns linked to the use of cigarettes, tobacco products, and electronic cigarettes within a residential childcare setting.

In line with the Health Act 2006, smoke-free legislation, the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015, health and safety legislation, fire safety requirements, and Ofsted expectations, Hamida House operates as a smoke-free environment within all internal areas of the home and company vehicles.

Smoking or vaping is strictly prohibited inside the home, including:

- Children's bedrooms
- Bathrooms
- Communal living areas
- Staff sleep-in areas
- Offices
- Hallways
- Storage areas
- Company vehicles
- Any enclosed areas within the property

Staff are prohibited from smoking or vaping in the presence of children or in any manner that may expose children to second-hand smoke, vapour, smoke residue, or

inappropriate role modelling. Staff must not smoke or vape whilst supervising children within the community, during activities, transport arrangements, appointments, or whilst undertaking direct care duties.

Where staff choose to smoke or vape during authorised breaks, this must take place:

- Away from children and young people
- Away from the immediate entrance or exit of the property
- In a discreet and professional manner
- In designated safe external areas only
- In line with staffing ratios and supervision requirements
- Without negatively impacting the care, supervision, safeguarding, or emotional wellbeing of the child

Staff must ensure cigarettes, tobacco products, vaping devices, vape liquids, lighters, matches, chargers, and related materials are stored securely and safely at all times to prevent access by children. Smoking materials and vaping devices must never be left unattended or accessible within the home environment.

Staff must not provide, purchase, share, or facilitate access to cigarettes, tobacco products, vaping devices, vape liquids, or related products for children living within the home unless specifically agreed as part of a lawful, risk-assessed, and professionally supported intervention for older young people in partnership with the placing authority and relevant professionals.

The home recognises that some children may present with fire-setting behaviours, risk-taking behaviours, emotional dysregulation, substance misuse concerns, or vulnerabilities relating to smoking or vaping. Individual risk assessments, safeguarding plans, and behaviour support strategies will therefore consider these risks where relevant.

All staff are expected to act as positive and appropriate role models for children. Staff must present professionally at all times and ensure smoking or vaping behaviours do not undermine the home's therapeutic, nurturing, safeguarding, and health-promoting environment.

Clear "No Smoking" and "No Vaping" signage will be displayed within the home and at appropriate external locations to ensure staff, visitors, contractors, and professionals are aware of the home's smoke-free expectations and designated restrictions. Signage will be positioned in visible areas, including entrances and other appropriate locations around the property, in line with health and safety requirements, fire safety expectations, and smoke-free legislation.

The Registered Manager will ensure the home's smoking and vaping expectations are consistently reinforced with staff, visitors, and professionals to maintain a safe,

healthy, and child-centred environment consistent with safeguarding responsibilities and Ofsted expectations.

Any breaches of this policy will be addressed through supervision, management guidance, or disciplinary procedures where necessary. Persistent failure to comply with the home's smoking and vaping expectations may result in formal disciplinary action.

Hamida House promotes healthy lifestyles and will support staff and children who wish to access smoking cessation advice, vaping reduction support, or relevant healthcare services where appropriate.

**Date of Review:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reviewed By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_