

100% Tobacco-Free Policy for North Carolina Child Care Centers

Purpose/Belief Statement

We, Little Eagles Preschool and Northeast Academy, understand that the use of tobacco products on child care premises and in vehicles used to transport children or during any off-premises activities is an environmental hazard and detrimental to the health and safety of children, staff and visitors.

Background

Exposure of children to environmental tobacco smoke is associated with increased rates of lower respiratory illness and increased rates of middle ear effusion, asthma and sudden infant death syndrome. Exposure during childhood may also be associated with development of cancer during adulthood.

N.C. Child Care Rule 10A NCAC 09 .0604 (h)(i)(j) Safety Requirements for Child Care Centers states that:

- * Children shall be in a smoke-free and tobacco-free environment. Smoking and the use of any product containing, made or derived from tobacco, including but not limited to e-cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, smokeless tobacco and hookah is not permitted on the premises of the child care facility, on vehicles used to transport children or during off-premises activities. All smoking materials shall be kept in locked storage.
- * Signage regarding the smoke and tobacco restriction shall be posted at each entrance to the facility and in the vehicles used to transport children.
- * The operator shall notify the parent of each child enrolled in the facility, in writing, of the smoking and tobacco restriction.

Application

This policy applies to all children, families, visitors, volunteers and staff.

Procedure/Practice

Smoking and the use of tobacco products by anyone is prohibited at all times:

- * on the premises of the child care facility
- * on vehicles used to transport children
- * during any off-premises activities sponsored by our facility

Signs are posted at each entrance to the facility and in the vehicles used to transport children. The signs are posted in a manner and location that adequately notify family, visitors, volunteers and staff of the child care facility policy.

Enforcement

Parents and visitors using tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on the child care premises or to leave the premises. Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with personnel policies.

Parent or Guardian acknowledgement

I, the parent or guardian of _____ (child's name), acknowledge that I have read and received a copy of the facility's 100% Tobacco-Free Policy for North Carolina Child Care.

Print name of parent/guardian

Signature of parent/guardian
