

# Smoke-free Play: Case Studies

*The spaces in which children play, learn and socialise should be smoke-free.*

*This creates a healthier, safer environment and means children are less likely to take up smoking themselves when they grow up.*

ASH Scotland in partnership with Play Scotland has created resources to encourage smoke-free places for children to play, learn and socialise. We've gathered these examples to help inspire others to make children's spaces smoke-free.

## East Dunbartonshire: Smoke-free Play Parks

East Dunbartonshire Tobacco Alliance has worked with almost one hundred children from three local primary schools to roll out smoke-free signage in twelve local play parks.

The children took part in a series of tobacco prevention workshops delivered by local partners from NHS, Trading Standards and Community Wardens. This enabled the pupils to identify some of the health issues related to smoking and some wider environmental concerns which impact on spaces such as parks.

In the sessions to follow, the pupils then identified what needed to happen to make the parks smoke-free. They each designed new signs depicting their ideal play area and were invited to take part in an artwork competition where the winning designs were chosen.



## Breathe easy at the school gates



Pupils from St Nicholas Primary School in Broxburn, West Lothian turned the tables by teaching their parents about the dangers of smoking.

The P7 pupils designed and launched a "Breathe easy at our school gates" campaign, along with a banner to on prominent display at the school gates.

P7 children prepared and delivered a Tobacco Education Showcase for parents, showing parents a short movie about smoking put together by a group of P7 students. There were other activities including games, a quiz and a cooking show along with smoke-free homes pledges for parents to sign.

The school also endorsed [Scotland's Charter for a Tobacco-free Generation](#) to highlight their commitment to ensuring children's environments are smoke-free.

## Falla Hill Primary School & St John the Baptist Primary School

Primary 7 pupils at Falla Hill Primary School identified key issues relating to smoking in their local community and were motivated to campaign for one of their local play parks to be a smoke-free zone.

They discussed this as a class group and with the school community. They had an initial conversation at a strategic level with their local councillor, community police, local technical officer responsible for children's play areas and a regeneration officer.

Building on this work, Falla Hill Primary School came together with St John the Baptist primary school to make play parks in the village smoke-free and encourage people in their community to rethink their smoking habits.

The young people asked locals to sign an agreement which said: *"The young people of Fauldhouse politely ask you not to smoke so we can play all day."* The agreement received more than 1000 signatures. They were not focused on telling people to stop smoking, instead they politely requested that people think about where they smoke and who they smoke in front of.

*"Young people and children have a right to play in a clean and smoke free environment and we are asking for your help to achieve this."*

*"Children copy adults and could start smoking because they think it is ok to do so but it's not, it's deadly and very addictive."*

**Falla Hill Primary School, P7 Pupils**

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