

Information for teachers on the dangers of second hand smoke for children

You should judge the level of information to give the class about potential illnesses according to the year group and ability. To avoid unnecessary worry for pupils with family members who smoke, explain that not all smokers will get these illnesses.

Children who are exposed to second hand smoke are more likely to get:

- Ear infections
- Bronchitis
- Asthma
- Coughs and Colds
- Bacterial Meningitis
- Bronchitis
- A reduced sense of smell
- Sudden infant death syndrome
- Childhood cancers

When they grow up they are also more likely to get:

- Lung cancer
- Emphysema
- They are also more likely to smoke themselves

Living in a smoky environment is also unpleasant for a child. They can often smell of cigarettes themselves and it can give them a sore throat and sore eyes.