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Japan university to hire non-smoking staff only – 5th May, 2019

Level 0

Japan's Nagasaki University will not hire teachers who smoke. It wants a healthy place to work and study. It wants to look after its staff and stop people smoking. There will be no smoking in the university from August. About eight per cent of the university's professors and teachers smoke.

More streets, restaurants and bars in Japan are non-smoking. There is a no-smoking campaign ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The number of smokers in Japan fell from 49 per cent of adults in 1966 to 28 per cent last year. A company in Japan is giving workers extra days off to stop smoking.

Level 1

Nagasaki University in Japan will not hire teachers who smoke. It wants to create a healthier place to work and study. The university said: "Our job...is to look after our staff. We feel we have to discourage them from smoking." It said there would be no smoking in the university from August. People won't be able to take cigarettes into the university from April 2020. About eight per cent of the university's professors and teachers smoke.

There is a growing trend in Japan to end smoking in public spaces, including restaurants and bars. Many streets in Tokyo are now no-smoking areas, ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. The number of smokers in Japan is falling. In 1966, 49 per cent of adults smoked. Last year, it was 28 per cent. One company in Japan wants its staff to quit smoking. It is giving extra days off to workers who do not smoke. Some staff soon stopped smoking.

Level 2

Nagasaki University in Japan will no longer hire teachers who smoke. It wants to create a healthier environment for workers and students. The university's president said: "Our job as a university is to look after our staff. We feel we have to discourage them from smoking." He said there would be no smoking anywhere in the university from August. Staff and students will be banned from taking cigarettes into any areas of the university from April 2020. About eight per cent of the university's professors and teachers are smokers.

Nagasaki University's no-smoking policy is part of a trend in Japan to end smoking in public spaces. There are more bans in restaurants and bars in the lead-up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. Many streets in Tokyo are now no-smoking areas. The number of smokers in Japan is falling. In 1966, 49 per cent of adults smoked. Last year, 18 per cent of adults smoked. One company in Japan is trying to get its staff to quit smoking. It is offering extra days off to workers who did not smoke. Several staff soon quit the habit.

Level 3

A university in Japan has said it will no longer hire teachers who smoke. Nagasaki University said it wants to create a healthier environment for its workers and students. The university's president Shigeru Kono said: "Our job as a university is to look after our staff. We feel we have to discourage them from smoking." Many companies have also started not recruiting smokers. Mr Kono said there would be a ban on smoking anywhere in the university by teaching and other staff from August. In addition, staff and students will be banned from taking cigarettes and lighters into any areas of the university from April 2020. Approximately eight per cent of the university's professors and teachers are smokers.

The no-smoking policy taken by Nagasaki University is part of a growing trend in Japan to ban smoking in public spaces. There are currently bans in many public places, including restaurants and bars, in the lead-up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. There are many areas of Tokyo and Kyoto in which people cannot smoke on the streets. The number of people in Japan who smoke is on the decline. In 1966, 49 per cent of adults smoked, including 84 per cent of men. Last year, 18 per cent of adults smoked, including 28 per cent of men. One company in Japan is trying to get its staff to quit smoking by offering extra days off to employees who did not smoke. Several staff soon quit the habit.