

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to ask for your support in keeping our young people safe.

We are learning more and more about the health dangers of young people vaping.

Shops and other retailers cannot sell vaping items to people under the age of 18. This includes the sale of vaping equipment, including liquids and devices. It is clear that young people under the age of 18 should not be purchasing or be in possession of alternative nicotine products such as vapes. Whilst the sale of items as detailed above is illegal, students have reported to us that they are able to acquire devices online or from older siblings, friends and unfortunately in some cases parents/carers.

I am sure that you will agree that the possession and use of vapes during the school day is unacceptable, consequently, we will view this in the same way as incidents of smoking or possession of smoking paraphernalia. Any student who is found to be in the possession of paraphernalia linked to smoking or vaping will have the items confiscated and may receive additional sanctions in line with the On Track behaviour expectations.

We have all seen [news articles \(web link\)](#) about young people who are hospitalised as a result of vaping and, as such, where we believe that a confiscated vape may contain toxic and harmful substances, we will be asking our local community police team to collect items for testing.

We will continue our work with students regarding the dangers of vaping and the legality surrounding this as part of our personal development curriculum.

You can find more guidance around vaping at [NHS Better Health](https://www.talktofrank.com/drug/vapes)
<https://www.talktofrank.com/drug/vapes>

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

Rachel Edwards