

30<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parent carers

There is a growing concern about children vaping (and/or smoking) and the risks associated with it. We are aware young people are purchasing plastic disposable vapes. These are small pre-filled vapes with nicotine salt e-liquid. The current UK law states:

“Selling vaping products to anyone under 18 is prohibited and so is buying vaping products for anyone under 18”

In line with our published behaviour policy, such items as these disposable vapes are prohibited items in school and as such, students who are thought to be in possession, or seen using, will be subject to routine searches and potential sanctions.

There are two sets of legal provisions which enable school staff to search for and confiscate items from students:

- The general power to discipline enables a member of school staff to confiscate, retain or dispose of a student’s property as a punishment.
- The power to search without consent for weapons, knives, alcohol, illegal drugs and stolen items and any item prohibited by the school which has been identified in the rules.

Prohibited items that may be searched for and confiscated also include tobacco or cigarette papers, cigarettes, cigarette lighters, matches, e-cigarettes and vapes.

In these circumstances, it may be necessary to contact a parent carer, for their support and to arrange an appropriate time for them to collect any items that can returned.

We suggest, if your child is known to vape (or smoke) that you seek advice from their GP relating to support with reducing and ceasing vaping (and/or smoking).

Should you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01905 763580.

Yours sincerely



Ian Enwright  
Executive Head Teacher