



We Make A Difference

Headteacher
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Deputy Headteacher
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KGR/SGI
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Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: The School's Position on Vapes and Vaping

I am writing to remind all students and parents/carers of the school's firm position regarding vapes, vaping devices and vaping-related items.

Vaping presents a significant health, safeguarding, behavioural and fire-safety concern. It is therefore important that our expectations are clear and consistently applied across the school community.

Vapes, e-cigarettes, vaping liquids, cartridges and associated vaping devices are prohibited items under the school's [behaviour policy](#) and school rules. Students must not bring these items onto the school site, possess them, use them or supply them to others.

Where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a student is in possession of a vape or other vaping-related item, the school may conduct a search in accordance with its searching and confiscation procedures. Parents/carers should be aware that the Department for Education permits schools to identify additional items within their school rules as items for which a search may be conducted. Vapes are specifically identified by the DfE as an example of an item which schools may include in their rules.

Confiscation and disposal

Any vape or vaping-related item found will be **confiscated and will not be returned to the student**. The school will arrange for confiscated vaping devices to be disposed of appropriately. This approach is intended to remove the item from circulation, prevent its continued use and reinforce the school's expectation that vaping devices have no place within our school community.

Vaping on the way to or from school

Our expectations also extend to students' conduct outside the school site where that conduct has a connection with the school or affects the school community.

If a student is seen vaping while travelling to school, at home time or while wearing school uniform, the school may take action in accordance with its behaviour policy. This may include searching the student where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that they are in possession of a prohibited or school-banned item. The school's behaviour policy applies to relevant misbehaviour outside the school premises, including behaviour when students are travelling to and from school.

Vaping on the school site

Vaping on the school premises is a serious breach of the school's behaviour expectations. Students found vaping on the school site should expect a **suspension**, with the length determined by the circumstances and in accordance with the school's behaviour and exclusion policies.

Any student who deliberately activates a fire alarm while vaping, or whose vaping results in the activation of a fire alarm, will be dealt with as a matter of the utmost seriousness. Such an incident has the potential to place students, staff and visitors at risk, disrupt the operation of the school and require the evacuation of the whole school community.

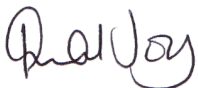
Where there is evidence of deliberate or sufficiently serious misconduct involving the activation of a fire alarm, **permanent exclusion may be considered**. Any decision to permanently exclude would be made on the individual circumstances of the case and in accordance with the statutory framework governing suspension and permanent exclusion. The school's Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy can be found on the school website [here](#).

We ask parents and carers to support us by speaking to their children about the dangers of vaping and by making it clear that vaping devices must not be brought onto the school site or used in connection with school.

Our aim is to maintain a calm, safe and supportive environment in which all students can learn, and we will continue to take firm and proportionate action where behaviour threatens the safety or wellbeing of our school community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs K Grewal-Joy
Headteacher