

15 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following increasing coverage in the news, I am writing to you to share our concerns about the issue of vapes and how they pose a significant risk to our students.

The issue of vaping has been covered both the national and regional news and recent statistics show that the number of children trying vaping has risen by 50 per cent in the last year. An [article](#) on the BBC News website published this week highlights concerns raised by a number of educational professionals around their use and harmful consequences in schools.

It is with this in mind that I write to you to raise awareness to help our young people make sensible and informed decisions.

Our concerns around the use of vapes are focused on three areas: health, safety and care for the environment. The attached information leaflet elaborates on each of these.

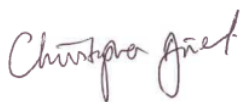
As a result, we have a very robust and clear line on sanctioning students seen vaping or found in possession of a vape on school site (this includes school buses). All students have been informed that they will receive a fixed-term suspension as a sanction. Repeated fixed-term suspensions may result in permanent exclusion from school.

Additionally, we will continue to educate students about the dangers of vaping through our PSHE curriculum and assemblies. We will also be able to signpost students who want support in stopping vaping.

We know that when we as a school community take a clear position and work together, we will see the biggest improvements for our young people.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully



Mr Christopher Daniel
Vice Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead