



13th June 2022

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Richard Brand: Headteacher

Dear Parents / Carers

Re: Important Information about Underage Vaping

Across the UK, there has been a recent and very worrying rise in the number of school aged children using vapes and other vaping products and I want to take this opportunity to bring this issue to your attention. While vaping products are not new, schools are noticing an increase in the number of disposable vapes, also known as “puff bars” or “Geek Bars”, and the trend for their use in underage children is a big concern.

The law is clear: it is illegal to sell nicotine vapour products to anyone under the age of 18. Based on this vapes are banned from our school site.

Many vaping products do not disclose that they contain nicotine and some liquids marketed as containing 0% nicotine have been found to contain nicotine. Some products being sold in England have been found to contain an excessive amount of nicotine which is harmful in continual consumption; in some cases, a single vaping pod contains as much nicotine as a pack of twenty cigarettes and many contain nicotine salts which allow particularly high levels of nicotine to be inhaled more easily.

Because vapes are relatively new the health implications are not yet fully understood but there are a number of existing studies which have been released indicating they are harmful for young people’s health and development.

Whilst instances of students using vapes at The Dean Academy remain very low, we will continue to take robust action against anyone found with, using or supplying vapes in school as we would if any student was found to be smoking cigarettes according to our existing behaviour procedure which can be found [here](#).

We have had a handful of instances where vapes have been confiscated from students on school site and we are working with all students to inform them of the dangers of smoking these. Some vapes look very similar to a highlighter pen and we have attached an information sheet to this letter to help you identify them. The price, design and flavours of these vapes, combined with widespread publicity on social media, make them particularly attractive to young people.

We would, of course, always contact you if your child was caught with or using a vape, or indeed in the presence of those vaping, and continue to be grateful for your full support in this matter.





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I feel it is important for parents to be made aware of wider social issues that may sometimes find their way into schools. However, please be reassured that The Dean Academy has been and will continue to take action to ensure all students remain safe and well.

If you have any concerns, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Richard Brand
Headteacher

RJB/TW – underage vaping-130622



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