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CREATING BRILLIANT FUTURES

18/10/22

Re: Use of a vape in school

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may have read in the news recently about the significant increase in vaping amongst young people. There are serious concerns about the addictive properties of both the nicotine and chemicals in vapes and the action and attention around their use.

Young people are surrounded by media channels which normalise the use of vapes, masking the health risks and cost, both financially and emotionally, of vaping. Despite the fact that vapes are illegal to purchase under the age of 18, they are often used by younger teenagers having been shared with friends or sourced illegally. For schools, one of the biggest challenges is that there are specific vapes aimed at the student market. These are incredibly small and easy to hide; some even have a USB at one end so that they appear to have only a legitimate use. The amount of vapour released can also be negligible, making their use more difficult to identify, especially in crowded spaces.

Where there is a reported concern of vaping or possession of a vape, students' bags, coats and lockers will be searched and parents notified. If a student is found to have a vape or use a vape in school, they will be internally isolated for the first incident. A second occurrence is most likely to be a suspension from school. We have had to manage some instances with regard to vaping at our school this term and would welcome your support with this in conversations at home around the dangers of vaping and in ensuring that your child does not have a vape and that they do not bring vapes into school.

If you do have any concerns about your child[ren] using or having access to vapes, please do contact their form tutor or Head of Year.

If you or your young person would like any more information about smoking or vaping please visit www.teen.smokefree.gov or contact us at school.

Thank you for your support.

Mr King
Assistant Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead





