



25/04/22

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your family have had a wonderful Easter break. On returning to Beacon Hill Academy, I wanted to share with you and your child some health guidance regarding **vaping** whilst also reminding you of our Academy stance towards the usage of vape pens whilst in the Academy and representing Beacon Hill Academy to and from school.

Vapes/E-Cigarettes (or any similar product) are **strictly forbidden** from our Academy premises. Any such items will be confiscated and only returned to a responsible adult. Any learner caught using these items in school will be immediately placed in Supporting Expectations (SE), repeat offences will lead to the child being suspended from our Academy. In accordance with my correspondence with you on the 15<sup>th</sup> February regarding how our learners conduct themselves in the community to and from school, we expect learners to adhere to these standards at all times whilst they represent Beacon Hill Academy.

By law, vapes (along with other E-cigarettes) can only be purchased from the age of 18 in the UK. It is illegal to sell these products to anyone under this age and also illegal for someone over the age of 18 to purchase a vape for someone under the age of 18. There are **many misconceptions of the relative harms of smoking and vaping**. Please see the following link which shares further information on the risks of vaping [Vaping: What You Need to Know \(for Parents\)](#). Some of the key concerns cited are;

- Damage to lungs
- Slow brain development, including the negative impact on memory, concentrations, mood and self control
- Increase in the likelihood in addiction to other substances later on in life

Further information and guidance can be found here [E-cigarettes and vaping: policy, regulation and guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

As an Academy, we will continue to inform and educate our learners on making healthy lifestyle choices. We would welcome your support by having open and honest conversations about the risks of vaping (and other similar products) with your child, so that they are fully aware of the implications of using these products.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

**Mr T Clarkson**  
**Assistant Principal**



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