



Dear Parent/Guardian

We know that for a range of reasons, some children are regularly using vapes or at risk of trying a vape for the first time, some as young as 7 years old.

While vaping is currently viewed as a way for adults to cut down on cigarette smoking, buying or selling vapes to children under the age of 18 is illegal.

A lot of young people use vapes because of their popularity. It's easy for them to buy vapes online, in local shops and through friends or social media, however, many of the vapes targeted at children not only have high levels of nicotine, making them very addictive, they often contain illegal drugs or chemicals.

Some of these vapes are so strong that for some children, just taking one puff is causing them to become very unwell with some children requiring hospitalisation.

This is a worrying trend, and we would like to ask for your help in raising awareness of the risks and sharing some safeguarding advice with your children;

- If they don't vape – do not start
- If they do vape, try cutting down with the aim of trying to stop
- You do not know what is in a vape so using one is risky behaviour
- Do not use a vape which claims to have THC, cannabis, spice or any other illegal drug content. These can cause children to become very unwell, very quickly.
- If a child feels unwell after using a vape, tell a trusted adult immediately and seek medical advice. If a vape makes a child feel unwell it is likely to contain an illegal product.

If you are worried about your child's use of vapes, seek the advice of a health practitioner or your GP.

Additional help for children to give up vaping can be found here [Quit Vaping | Smokefree Teen](#)

West Yorkshire Police's aim is to keep children safe and reduce the risk of any further hospitalisations or serious side effects from using illegal vapes.




West Yorkshire Police is working closely with schools across West Yorkshire to safeguard young people by raising awareness of the dangers linked to these vapes. If anyone has any information around vapes, in particular suppliers who are exploiting children, please contact the police via ringing 101, using 101 online chat function, or contacting Crimestoppers.

Thank you for your support



WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE

HOW TO SPOT ILLEGAL VAPES

1. **TANK SIZE:** Anything over 2ml liquid.
2. **STRENGTH:** More than 20mg/ml or 2% nicotine concentration.
3. **INFORMATION:** The packaging should list the nicotine strength, puff count, ingredients, batch number and details of the manufacturer.
4. **HEALTH WARNING:** Compliant vapes carry a health warning written in bold capital letters.
5. **CERTIFICATIONS:** Legal vapes carry these certification logos:   



REPORT the sale of illegal vapes to
Trading Standards 0808 223 1133

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