



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Vaping detection sensors

I am writing to you today to address the increasing national concern regarding youth vaping and to ask for your partnership in keeping our pupils safe and healthy. While it is a widespread issue, we want to be proactive in our approach through education, prevention, and support. Following the recent October break the Local Authority has installed vaping sensors in all school toilets.

Background on vaping

Many young people believe that vaping is harmless, but this is a dangerous misconception. Here are some key facts we want to share:

- **Health risks:** Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, a highly addictive substance that can negatively impact a young person's brain development. Many unregulated products contain even higher levels of nicotine than cigarettes.
- **Unknown long-term effects:** As vaping is a relatively new phenomenon, the full, long-term health consequences are still not known.
- **Deceptive appearance:** Vaping devices come in many shapes and sizes, some resembling everyday items like highlighters, pens, or USB drives, making them easy to conceal. They also come in flavours that appeal to young people.

Our School Policy

As a reminder, our school has a strict zero-tolerance policy regarding smoking and vaping on school property, including all buildings, grounds, and during school-sponsored activities.

- Any pupil found in possession of or using a vaping device on school grounds will have the device confiscated.
- Parents will be contacted, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.



- We will inform our campus police officer concerning anyone under the legal age who is acquiring vapes.
- We will continue to educate pupils on the dangers of vaping through our curriculum and school assemblies.

How You Can Help?

Open communication is our strongest tool in addressing this issue. We encourage you to have an open and honest conversation with your child about the risks of vaping.

- **Talk to your child:** Discuss the health risks, the addictive nature of nicotine, and why it is not safe to vape, especially for non-smokers.
- **Know the law:** Remind your child that it is illegal for anyone under 18 to purchase vaping products.
- **Recognise the signs:** Familiarise yourself with what vaping devices look like and the potential signs that your child may be vaping.

Support for Pupils

We understand that some pupils may already have a vaping habit and want to quit. We can connect students with external resources and support to help them. Please contact the school if you or your child would like confidential help.

We appreciate your partnership in this important matter. By working together, we can ensure that our school remains a safe and healthy environment for all pupil.

Sincerely,

Mr Black
Headteacher
Lornshill Academy