25th June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Greenwood School we are committed to ensuring our core principles of Ready, Respectful and Safe are followed for the benefits of students, staff and visitors. In line with this commitment we will no longer be allowing vaping on the school site, so that we can keep the students safe from the negative health and social impacts of vaping.

The decision to implement this ban is based on the following reasons:

**Health Concerns** - The active ingredient in most vapes is nicotine, which when inhaled, is a highly addictive drug. It is the opinion of an increasing number of medical professionals that children should never vape. Symptoms of excessive use are mouth and throat infection, headaches, shortness of

breath and lung infections.

**School Environment** – We strive to create a positive and respectful community. Student openly vaping in classrooms, corridors and around the site is inconsistent with this value.

**Legal Compliance** - It is illegal to sell nicotine vaping products to anyone under 18 or for adults to buy them on behalf of under-18s. Some of the vapes that we are seeing on site also break the legal limit of holding no more than 2ml of liquid at a time which is 600 puffs.

To ensure that all students are ready for this change, we ask for your support in the following ways:

1-Discuss the change with your child and ensure they are aware of the dangers of vaping and importance of adhering to the school expectations.

2-Encourage compliance by reinforcing the message that vaping is not allowed on the school premises and that there will be a consequence for not meeting the expectation.

From Monday 1st July vapes or nicotine products will no longer be allowed on to the school site. Students will not be allowed to hand vapes in to reception and any student seen vaping once they have arrived on the site will be suspended. Parents will be asked to attend a reintegration meeting before the student returns following the suspension. The School will complete a Community Partnership Information form for repeat offenders. This referral goes to multiple agencies so that the illegal sale of vapes can be challenged.

We do appreciate that some of our students will find this change very hard to manage. We will still provide vaping alternatives to support students as long as parents are happy for their child to use them. Thank you for your continued support, if you have any questions then please contact me on 02380 423827 or adminoffice@greenwood.hants.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart Curtis

Head of School