

## **South Dartmoor Community College and Atrium Studio School**

Executive Head teacher | Mrs J Veal

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Dear Parent/Carer

## **TOILETS**

We are aware that there is a small number of students who are doing a significant amount of damage to the toilets, resulting in them having to be closed in order to be fixed or cleaned. This is compounded by the same small number of students who have taken to vaping in the toilets. The law prohibits anyone under the age of eighteen from purchasing vapes and, in line with our policy, we will suspend any student found vaping. Our overarching concern, however, is that vaping poses serious health risks to young people and that those who are choosing to do this are intimidating others wishing to use the toilets.

It is imperative that students can use clean toilets safely when they need to. Therefore, from Monday we will be zoning the toilets so that certain toilets are allocated only to certain year groups. We will be supervising these toilets to ensure students feel safe when using them and to clamp down on anyone who decides to misuse them in any way. We strongly encourage students to use the toilets during break times so that disruption to curriculum time and learning is minimised. However, accessible toilets will be available for use during lessons for students with medical cards or for those who need to use them. Students will be informed of the details on Monday in assemblies.

If you are worried that your child may be vaping, please contact your child's Head of Year. Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 were given an educational presentation yesterday by Dave Parvin from Drugs Awareness, on the risks and dangers involved in drug misuse, including in the use of vapes. Please visit the following sites for more information or support.

Drugs and Alcohol | Support For Young People | YoungMinds

Children and drugs | NSPCC

We are grateful to you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mrs J Veal

**Executive Head teacher** 

