



South Dartmoor Community College

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Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.



19 November 2025

Dear Parent and Carer,

I am writing to inform you of our recent communication with students regarding the bringing of prohibited items onto school site. Recently, we have had to conduct regular searches of students due to concerns around vaping and other banned items in school. These searches are carried out in line with our school policy to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students.

It is important to stress that we are not accusing your child of any wrongdoing, but we wish to support as we have had reason to understand that they might vape or might be associated with students who do vape and/or bring vapes into school.

The reason for searches is that vaping devices and related substances are prohibited on school premises. They pose health risks and can lead to wider safeguarding concerns. Our aim is to maintain a safe learning environment for every child and staff member. Any student found to be distributing banned items and/or drugs on school site will be permanently excluded from South Dartmoor.

We believe that parental support is essential in addressing these issues effectively. Working together will help us reinforce the message about the dangers of vaping and ensure your child understands the importance of following school expectations.

The school will continue to monitor the situation, and we will be in contact to arrange a convenient time for a meeting if your son/daughter is identified for a search and/or been associated with any other student involved in a search from this point forward.

We would ask you to discuss the content of this letter with your son/daughter. Please inform them that we are now sending all prohibited items to the Police for testing. This is a recent change to our procedures aimed at keeping our school community safe.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Kind regards

Mr D Vile
Assistant Headteacher

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