

Safeguarding at FUS

*The **Vaping** edition: Summer Term 2025*
<https://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/information/safeguarding/>

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

As parents, carers and teachers we all want the same for our children – for them to be safe and fully prepared for adult life. Our school is an extremely safe place, Ofsted and student surveys tell us this, and we take this safeguarding role very seriously and will always endeavour to maintain this.

As you are aware **vaping is prohibited** in school and we take a proactive approach to supporting our students to not vape by having **vape detectors** in each toilet area, so any trigger on these is followed up, alongside **education about vaping**.

If a student is found to have a vape on them, this is confiscated. As part of our ongoing safeguarding support to students, these vapes are passed to **Trading Standards** and if appropriate police links. Students share where these are bought from and the stores **selling them to under-age students** are also reported.

We wanted to share with you the results of the latest confiscated vapes passed to Trading Standards, to keep educating parents as much as possible around vape use.

Feedback:

- Some were very high nicotine levels in the 7000 and 9000 puff vapes
- There are very high nicotine levels in the twister / twister bar vapes
- Over half were illicit or illegal (i.e. above the legal tank size or nicotine strength).
- Very high nicotine levels in the white nicotine pouch (50 mg)

The **7,000 and 9,000 puff devices** are illegal. The maximum strength of a legal vape is no more than 20mg/ml (2%) and has a maximum tank size of 2ml in capacity. This translates to about 600 – 800 puffs.

The **twister vapes** can incorporate 4 vapes in one device of 2ml... that is 80 cigarettes worth in one device.

Even with legal devices a person will be absorbing the equivalent nicotine from a whole packet of cigarettes, so if 7,000 puffs, it will be 100 cigarettes worth or more through the vape.

The biggest concern over **illegal vapes**, is what these vapes can contain and links to THC / Spice or other chemicals being added. There is **no evidence any FUS confiscated vapes contained THC / Spice or other chemical**.

The **50mg nicotine pouch**: A smoker can absorb 2mg from one cigarette, so with a 50mg pouch straight to your gums, this student would be absorbing the equivalent nicotine levels of dozens of cigarettes in one go.

The Law

In the UK, as of June 1, 2025, it is illegal for businesses to sell (online or in shops) or supply **single-use (disposable) vapes**. This ban applies to all vapes, regardless of whether they contain nicotine.

It is **illegal to sell vaping products to anyone under 18**. It is also illegal for adults to purchase vaping products on behalf of those under 18.

Supporting your child

We work closely with the **Talk About Trust** in relation to **vaping, alcohol and drugs**. Their website offers excellent support for parents: <https://talkabouttrust.org/parents-carers/> and for students through <https://life-stuff.org/>

The **Pastoral Team** are also here to support any concerns in relation to young people. Please just ask for support.

Other supportive vaping websites: <https://www.talktofrank.com/drug/vapes>
<https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/quit-smoking/help-others-quit/young-people-and-vaping/>

For a range of support visit <https://fernup.dorset.sch.uk/information/getting-help-the-ferndown-way/>

Please do contact the safeguarding team using either:

- the HeadofYear email address
- or scan the QR code to email safeguarding@fernup.dorset.sch.uk with any safeguarding concerns

