



Friday 20 January 2023

To whom it may concern

The safety and health of our students is our top priority. We want to make you aware that we are seeing an increase in vaping amongst our Broughton High School student population. We see this across all year groups, but mostly within our S3 students (14-15 years old). The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the growing issue and to ask you a favour in helping our school decrease the number of students vaping.

According to a recent publication [Young People and E-Cigarettes in Scotland: A Survey of Secondary School Pupils - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot) 84% of 11-15 years olds and 90% of 16-18 years olds are aware of vape usage. This high level of awareness is unsurprising, especially within our school's catchment area, as witnesses report that the majority of students are exposed to inappropriate advertising and marketing from nearby shops (i.e. multiple displays of vapes at the checkout tills and in glass containers). They are exposed to these displays mostly during lunch time. We are aware that the colourful packaging of these products are out of your control, but we question the need of displaying such products in close proximity of cashier tills, glass boxes and on easily accessible shelves. This would not be acceptable for cigarettes, so is it acceptable for vaping products..?

Similar to cigarettes, shops and other retailers are prohibited from selling vaping items to people under the age of 18. This covers the sale of vaping equipment, including liquids and devices. Although we cannot be certain that our young people are purchasing these products from your shops, we would like to take the extra precaution of asking nearby retailers to stop selling vapes to students and to decrease the enticing displays.

We recognise that this is not necessarily the fault of our catchment area shops but we ask for your help in decreasing the negative influence on our students. There is a big risk of our students becoming addicted and having a decrease in health due to the usage of vape products.

Naturally, we will also continue to educate our young people in the dangers of vaping and the legality surrounding this. We would like to thank you in advance for reading our letter.

Yours sincerely

Pupil Council Representatives
Broughton High School

Peter Palmer

Achie Macdonald

Joseph

Clare Wiles

Rosie Brett

Wren CG

Tom B.

Marie-Anne

Looper Toruati

Corn Dibdin

Lisa B.

S. Kowalchuk

S4 Representatives

S5/S6 Representatives

Elaiza Miranda

John Wilson

Cath Stewart

Pupil Council Coordinating Teacher

Head Teacher

Pupil Council Coordinating Teacher