



## Hunslet Carr Primary School

[www.hunsletcarr.co.uk](http://www.hunsletcarr.co.uk)

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Dear Parents and Carers,

During lessons on how to stay safe outside of school, the children have been letting us know about their worries around vaping.

Many of our staff live in the local area and while out and about have seen children in our school vaping while playing out. Last year I only sent this letter to parents and carers of children in Years 5 and 6, but staff have seen children in Year 1, 2 and 3 vaping this weekend.

Lots of the children say they are feeling under pressure to try it, or they will not look cool or be called names like chicken.

When we have asked where the children are getting the vapes from, they say that they are taking them from their homes, getting them from older siblings and children at the park, and in some cases picking them up off the floor to see if there is anything left in them.

### **We are not the health police**

We want to be clear. What adults choose to do around smoking and vaping is a choice for them. Adults have all the facts & can make their own choices.

But we are worried about children as young as 6 trying vaping and possibly becoming addicted. Vapes have chemicals in them that cause damage to children's developing brains impacting memory, attention and learning.

### **Why is it so popular?**

Social media is increasingly glorifying vaping. On average a child spends an hour a day on TikTok, watching 200 videos. 63% of these videos currently include vaping in an exciting and desirable way.

### **What can you do?**

A recent study in America found children who smoked or vaped were able to hide it from their parents eight times out of 10.

That is eight out of ten families who didn't think they needed to talk to their child about why vaping was harmful. So, if you are reading this letter thinking your child would never do that, please think again.

- Please explain to them even the vapes that don't contain nicotine still contain several other addictive and dangerous chemicals
- Speak to them about peer-pressure and how you will support them if they say no when asked to try it
- If you smoke or vape, please check to see if cigarettes or vapes are going missing.

If you have any questions or concerns around your child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact either Andy Hinchcliffe, our Safeguarding Officer or myself and we will do our best to help you keep your children safe.

Kind Regards

Mr Martin Lumb

Headteacher

A woman with a large white cloud on her head against a purple background. The cloud is positioned directly above her head, partially obscuring it. She is wearing a black top and a patterned shawl. The background is a solid purple color.

My kid would never vape.

More than 5 million  
American kids vape.

Maybe even yours.

Talk to your kid about  
vaping. Get the facts at

**TalkAboutVaping.org**

**GET YOUR HEAD  
OUT OF THE CLOUD**