

Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, we work closely with the Police to ensure that our pupils and members of the community are safe. I am writing to you today to share some concerning incidents from our colleagues at Lancaster Police Station.

The first involved a 16 year old who smoked a joint, believing it to be cannabis, prior to school and immediately fell ill requiring treatment at hospital. The cannabis was from a packet branded 'Zombie Madness' and depicts a gorilla. It is believed that the cannabis may be mixed with amphetamine, causing an adverse reaction.

The second incident involved two 15 year old pupils who were admitted to hospital with breathing difficulties and loss of consciousness following inhaling a vape which contained THC (the active ingredient of cannabis). The vape had been purchased from an unknown girl via Snapchat.

Thirdly a recent seizure of cannabis edibles from a school in Blackpool showed them to be packaged just like sweets and clearly aimed at young people. Something to look out for but not easily spotted amongst legitimate sweet packages.

Lancashire Police have also released a statement regarding these concerns:  
<https://www.lancashire.police.uk/news/2024/january/vape-warning-after-teenagers-taken-ill/>

At school, we will continue to raise awareness of the dangers associated with smoking, vaping and substance abuse, and highlight the issues that are occurring locally, but we need your support too. Please could I request that you speak to your child about the dangers that these substances can bring, particularly when the substance being inhaled or consumed is not always what it is being sold as, they represent a serious risk to our young people.

If you or your child has any information that could help the Police with their enquiries, please report to Lancashire Police on 101. If you feel more comfortable talking to a member of staff at school, please contact the office and your child's Head of Year will get in touch with you.

**If you are concerned about a young person using drugs and vapes, please contact specialist support charity [We are With You | Twitter, Instagram, Facebook | Linktree](#) via their website or on 0808 164 0074.**

Yours sincerely,



Victoria Crossman  
Head of School

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