

Parents and Carers are being urged to report any shops they believe are illegally selling nicotine e-cigarettes or vapes.

Rotherham Trading Standards are receiving increasing numbers of complaints about the illegal sale of vapes to young people under the age of 18. Children – some as young as 12 – are reported to be buying these products from small shops and corner stores, often located close to schools.

Whilst e-cigarettes are recognised as an important tool in reducing smoking rates, nicotine vapes are an age restricted product.

Key vaping facts:

- Many vapes contain nicotine, even if labelled 'nicotine-free'. The nicotine in one vape can equal 50 cigarettes. Nicotine can cause long-lasting negative effects on young people's brain development, including impaired learning ability and altered mood, and can increase the risk of depression and anxiety.
- Vapes can contain the same harmful chemicals found in cleaning products, nail polish remover, weed killer and bug spray, which can lead to serious lung diseases.
- Some vapes that are being sold are not legal due to the size of the liquid chambers
- Vape E-liquids being sold are illegal even for someone aged 18 years & over due to the amount of nicotine strength

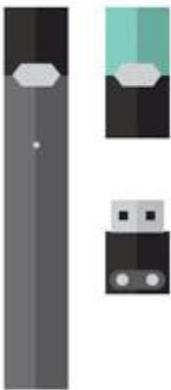
The most popular type of product amongst young people is the disposable vape which looks like a highlighter pen and comes in a variety of bright colours. Costing around £5 each they can be hidden easily in pencil cases.

Trading Standards have advised the school to confiscate the vapes as evidence for their investigations.

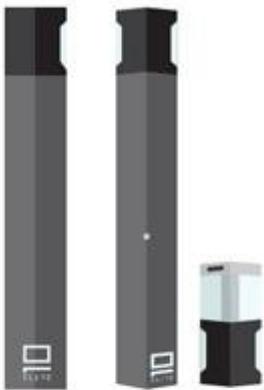
Trading Standards Officers and Colleagues from South Yorkshire Police have also been visiting local businesses to make them aware of the law and their responsibilities.

Parents and Carers can report shops anonymously using email trading.standards@rotherham.gov.uk or 01709 – 823118. All information received will be treated in the strictest confidence

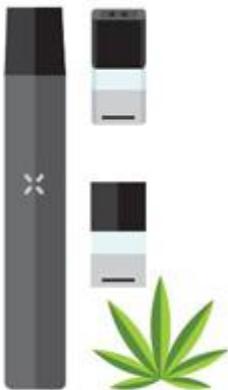
Examples of Vapes



JUUL



MarkTen Elite



PAX Era

Tanks & Mods

Rechargeable E-cigarette

Disposable E-cigarette