



DARRAGH ROAD, COMBER, CO DOWN, BT23 5BX Tel. 028 91872361

Principal: Mrs J Taggart OBE, BEd (Hons) PQH

19 September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

It has been brought to my attention that there has been a number of incidents in the area regarding vaping and the alleged use of illegal synthetic drugs. This would potentially be extremely harmful to our children.

Vaping is an increasing concern amongst our young people. We work closely with the PSNI to inform and prevent the issue within our local community and we appreciate your support.

The transition from 'regular' vaping to use of illegal synthetic drugs occurs very easily. I have been informed that synthetic drugs are widely available to our young people on social media platforms and within the local community. There is a growing trend that children share their vapes, this means they may be unaware of what they are actually vaping.

As a relatively new activity, the long term effects and impacts are as yet unknown, but it is known that vaping is having a negative impact on our children. It can lead to addiction and may affect brain development. Chest, Heart and Stroke and the PSNI, will be delivering preventative support in the upcoming weeks.

Thank you for your support.

Regards

Taggart

J Taggart OBE Principal