



10TH NOVEMBER 2023 | ISSUE 8

# FERRYHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

INTEGRITY | CREATIVITY | EXCELLENCE

## DROP EVERYTHING AND READ

YEAR 7, 8 & 9



Every Friday at Ferryhill Lower and Middle School, we drop everything and read. All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 enjoy reading together with their tutors. Despite our difficult circumstances in school, it's a lovely part of the day where we can all enjoy some reading time and discussion based on what we read, even in our bigger spaces, as you can see from the photographs. It doesn't matter where we are, we can still drop everything and read!

We have been enjoying a selection of short stories and now we will be starting to read a longer book all together and we can't wait to dive into a new and exciting chapter each Friday.



# YEAR 9

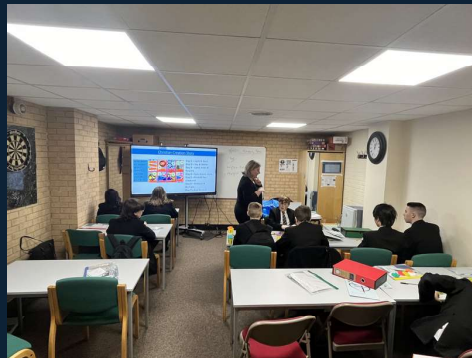
## Year 9 Middle School Ferryhill Sports and Education Centre Message from Mrs Craddock

It hasn't been the return to school or start of Year 9 we expected but we have completed our first half term in Ferryhill Sports and Education Centre. The students have settled in really well and adapted to their new surroundings.

As well as fantastic lessons, the students have taken part in sessions delivered by the EWEL Team, Northern School of Arts and Ferryhill Bowls Team.

We have had a strong start to the delivery of Morning Meetings which have focused on learning habits as well as retrieval from subject areas. Our Afternoon Meetings have focused on attendance, achievement and well-being.

Year 9 have also had the opportunity to apply for our Turing Programme, with trips offered by Geography to Iceland and History to Alabama America. Successful applicants have now been informed!  
Well done Year 9, keep up the good work!



# THE NATURAL FORMS PROJECT

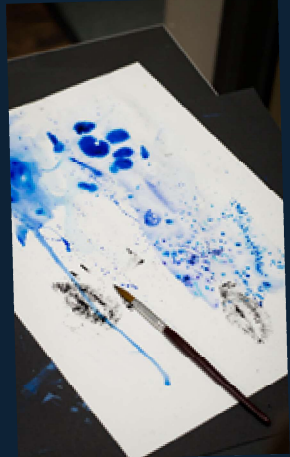
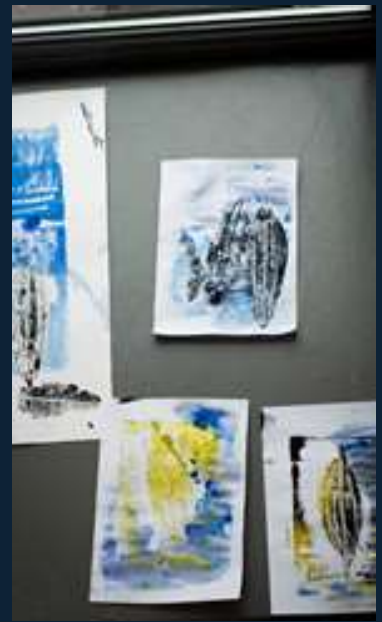
Year 9 students were excited to be part of workshops delivered by Tabitha Carwardine from The Northern School of Art, who we welcomed to Middle School on Thursday 26th October. Tabitha linked the sessions to student's current Natural Forms Project, designing a series of workshops for students to explore their creativity.

All students participated in print activities during the day, exploring numerous techniques to create artwork inspired by and using Natural Forms.

Tabitha spoke to students about the creative possibilities that The Northern School of Art offers post-16, giving them an insight into progression opportunities.

A huge Thank You from all of Year 9 and the Art Department at Ferryhill School to The Northern School of Art, for giving us their time and working with our students on what was a day full of creativity and excellence.

One student in particular enjoyed the session immensely, Sam was highly amused at being accidentally covered in paint!





# YEAR 10 & 11



## FUTURE STEPS

### EVENT

The 'Future Steps' event took place last night and was a huge success! The evening was designed to support students and parents/carers to understand the options available post 16 and the impact that GCSE results can have long term. We are aware that the decisions made at this stage are incredibly important and we wanted to support students to make informed choices.

There was over 25 external providers present including colleges, sixth form centres, training providers, the army and employers such as NHS, GSK, Gestamp, Livin, & Mears. School staff ran informative sessions on English, Science, Maths, Study Skills, the importance of Year 10 and Enterprise.



# 'JOB OF THE WEEK'

As part of the Year 9 tutor programme and to help expand student knowledge and understanding of some of the many different job roles available to them after school, students have been looking at different job roles.

This weeks 'Job of the week' is an IT Technician

Further information regarding this job role can be found by following this link:

<https://youtu.be/pR4xsVBFnS8>

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



Next week is anti-bullying week. If you are worried about bullying, please speak to one of our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. On Friday 17th students can wear odd socks to show their support for anti-bullying, and our Student Leaders will be collecting donations, which will go to our partner school in Kenya. All other aspects of uniform should be worn, and only odd socks are allowed.



# BOXING SUCCESS



Congratulations to Kareem (Year 11) on winning the National Development Championship with Seconds Out Boxing.

Kareem has dedicated a lot of his free time to study this discipline and has demonstrated our school core values of excellence and integrity throughout.

# FUNDRAISING

There has been some great fundraising taking place both in and outside of school across all school sites. They have an upcoming quiz night which is supported by Ferryhill Sports and Education Centre.

Students latest is a Fundraising Raffle!

Tickets are now on sale with lots of amazing prizes on offer!  
£1 a strip - cash

Students can purchase tickets from  
Upper School – Mrs McGuiggan  
Middle School – Mrs Langdale  
Lower School – Mrs Thompson

Parents can email [lla@ferryhill.school](mailto:lla@ferryhill.school) for various other payment methods and tickets

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AFRICAN ADVENTURES

**ZANZIBAR FUNDRAISING RAFFLE**

*Join our fundraising raffle!*

**£1 a Strip**

10 Achievement points for the student of your choice

Body Shop Advent Calendar (worth over £100)      Sweet Hamper  
Bottles of Alcohol

Avon Gift Set      Bags of sweets      Various Gift Vouchers

Florist Voucher      Festive Sweet Treats

Gift Sets      Wax Melt Hamper

Custom Cocktail Glass

And much more...

**Starting 14th November 2023**  
**Every Tuesday - 3pm - 4pm in room 6.**

FERRYHILL SCHOOL

# FILM CLUB

Join us as we watch and discuss films!

**EVERY THURSDAY 3PM-4PM**  
**ROOM 6**

We'll have popcorn and juice for you as you enter, but we also encourage you to bring your own snacks and drinks.

# 100 % ATTENDANCE



Well done to the 242 students who achieved 100% attendance in our first term of this school year. Full attendance is rewarded with points awarded on ClassCharts. Points can then be redeemed to purchase various items.

# ATTENDANCE

## Government Guidance on Attendance

### **How does attendance affect outcomes for pupils?**

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.

Our research found that pupils who performed better both at the end of primary and secondary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well.

Secondary school pupils who didn't achieve grade 9 to 4 in English and Maths missed out on 10 more days on average over the key stage than those who achieved grade 9 to 5 in both English and maths.

### **What are the risks of missing a day of school?**

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child who is absent for three days over a half term would miss 15 hours of learning in total. The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments. Good attendance also shows potential employers that a young person is reliable.

Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime.



# YEAR 11 INFORMATION

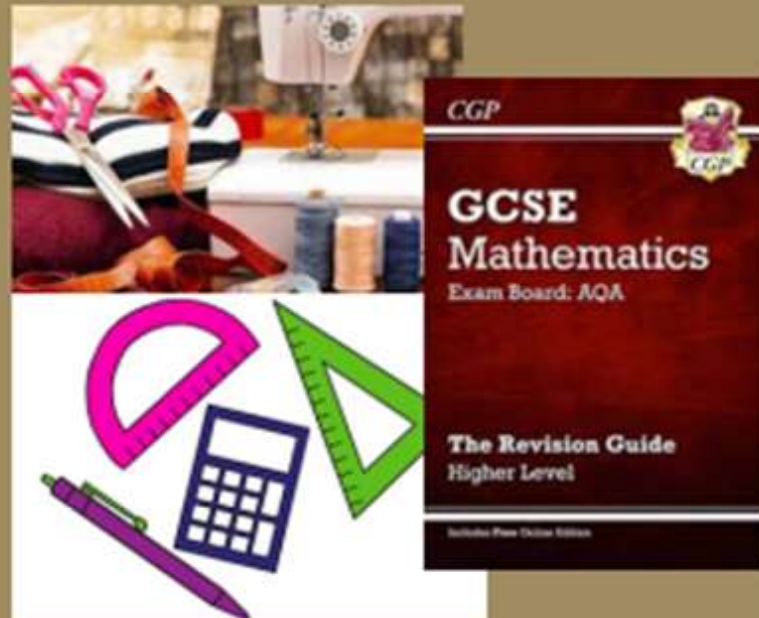
## ASSEMBLIES

Careers - Year 11 students are starting to consider what post 16 providers have to offer them, once they leave Ferryhill School. Students have had an information assembly from Durham Sixth Form Centre, New College Durham, Bishop Auckland College and also King James Sixth Form Centre. These assemblies will continue to take place for the next couple of months, allowing students to gain a vast range of information to support them in making an informed decisions regarding their post 16 applications / progression routes.



## School equipment now available to buy on ParentPay

In Technology and Creativity, we already provide general materials and basic equipment free of charge for students to complete their work within areas of the department. Unfortunately, prices have increased and we will now need to charge students £4.00 a term. This will include all products within Resistant Materials, Textiles, Graphics and CAD/CAM and students will be able to take their products home.



Casio scientific calculator and pencil case (pencil case, 3 black pens, 2 green pens, 2 pencils, 2 small & 1 large ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, compass, protractor, glue stick & 2 highlighters - £10.00.

FINAL STOCK Casio scientific calculator - £8.55.

Pink Casio scientific calculator £9.10.

Pencil case (pencil case, 3 black pens, 2 green pens, 2 pencils, 2 small & 1 large ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, compass, protractor, glue stick & 2 highlighters - £2.50.

*Donations  
are greatly  
Appreciated!*

## FOOD BANK DONATION

*Donations  
are greatly  
Appreciated!*

### Foodbank Donations

More people than ever are being driven to food banks and the sharp increase in people needing help is outstripping food donations. As a school community we would like to support our local food bank.

We are asking students to make a small donation of items from the following list:

- UHT milk
- Tinned meat (hotdogs, meatballs etc.)
- Tinned fish
- Tinned fruit
- Sponge/rice puddings
- Coffee (small jars)
- Long-life juice
- Pasta sauce
- Tinned veg (potatoes, carrots, green beans, tomatoes)
- Tinned meals (spaghetti, chicken or veg curries, chilli)
- Tinned soup
- Jam and spreads

Upper School - Mrs Snaith or Head of Year 10 & 11

Middle School - Mrs Langdale or Head of Year 9

Lower School - Mrs Thompson or Head of Year 7 & 8

Donations can be made at any time, however on Friday 17th November all donations will be collected from each site and then again on 8th December.

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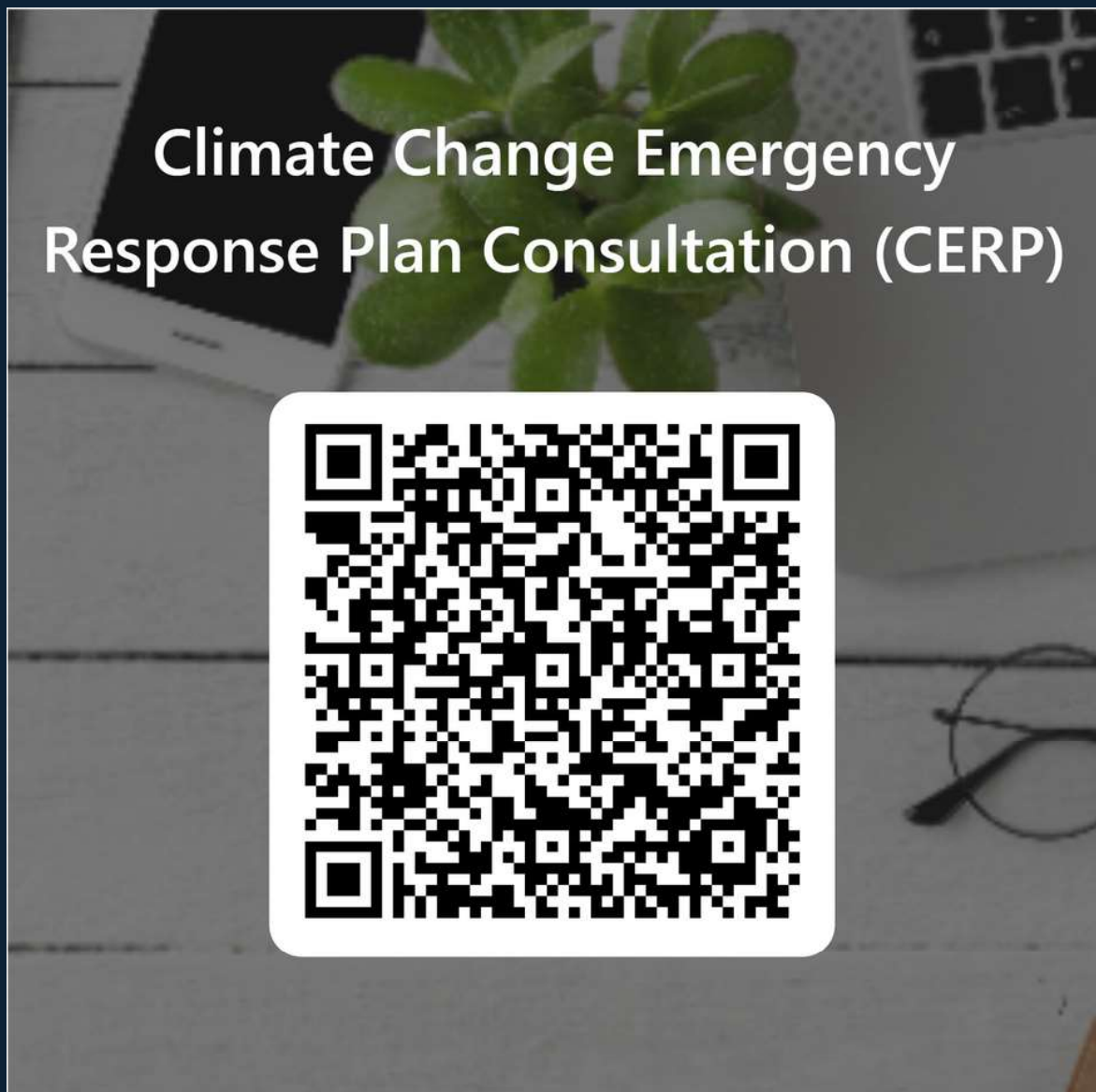
# CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN CONSULTATION

Students across all Year groups are asked to complete a survey relating to the Climate Change Emergency Response Plan Consultation (CERP) through DCC

Here is a web link

<https://forms.office.com/e/jHwR1DpZMN>

and the attached QR code which allows students to access the survey.



# PARENT NOTICES

## **PARKING AT FERRYHILL**

Parents are not to park in the school car park or enter the site on foot to collect their child unless they have been provided with a permit from School. Due to ongoing works around the area, we have a designated exit to ensure students can leave the site safely.

## **COLLECTION OF STUDENTS FROM FERRYHILL SITE**

When collecting or dropping off a student during the school hours of 8:30am – 2:45pm, can we ask that parents/carers come to the new reception entrance based in room 10 which is signposted. The PE entrance used by students will be locked throughout the day and will not be manned by staff.

## **COLLECTION OF STUDENTS FROM UPPER SCHOOL SITE**

For parents picking up their child from the Upper School site, please do not park directly outside of the building as the school buses need space to park. By parking there it prevents students being able to board the buses safely. Please park on the opposite side to the Upper School building. Thank you for your support with this matter.

## **LATE BUSES**

Please note late busses will not run for afterschool clubs. Your child will be expected to make their own way home.



## **LOLLIPOPS**



Lollipops are not allowed in school, they are a potential choking hazard.

## **BEHAVIOUR ON SCHOOL BUSES**

Please ensure students are aware that their behaviour while waiting for and while travelling on the school bus is subject to the schools consequence system.

## **RECORDING ABSENCES/ATTENDANCE**

All student absences must be reported to school by 8:30am each day. This can be done by contacting (01740) 651554. Please then select **option 1** to be directed to Student Support. If there is no one available to take your call, please leave a message on the answer machine provided. Alternatively, you can email any attendance related queries to [attendance@ferryhill.school](mailto:attendance@ferryhill.school).

## **PE KIT REMINDER**

Can we please remind parents that students must have their PE kits in school on their PE day. Please remind your child to check their timetable daily.

## **AEROSOLS**

Aerosols are NOT allowed in school in any form ie deodorant, hairspray, dry shampoo etc. If your child is found with this in their possession, the item will be confiscated and will have to be collected by parents.

# TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY



FERRYHILL  
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## FERRYHILL LOWER SCHOOL - TIMINGS

Morning Meeting	08:30 – 08:45	
Period 1	08:45 – 09:45	
Period 2	09:45 – 10:45	
Break	Y7 10:45 – 11:00	Y7 11:00 – 11:15
Tutor	Y8 11:00 – 11:15	Y8 10:45 – 11:00
Period 3	11:15 – 12:15	
Lunch	12:15 – 13:00	
Period 4	13:00 – 13:45	
Period 5	13:45 – 14:30	
Afternoon Meeting	14:30 – 14:45	

**Years 7 & 8**

Year 7 and 8 students need to be on Ferryhill School site by 8:20am every morning and should head to the tennis courts on arrival. At 8:20am, a bell will ring for students to line up. At 8:25am, a further bell will ring for students to enter the building for morning meeting which will commence promptly at 8:30am.



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## FERRYHILL LEISURE- TIMINGS

Morning Meeting	08:30 – 08:45
Period 1	08:45 – 09:45
Morning Break	09:45 – 10:00
Period 2	10:00 – 11:00
Period 3 - First Half	11:00 – 11:30
Lunch	11:30 – 12:00
Period 3 - Second Half	12:00 – 12:30
Period 4	12:30 – 13:30
Tutor	13:30 – 13:45
Period 5	13:45 – 14:40
Afternoon Meeting	14:40 – 15:00

**Year 9**

# TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY CONT....



## FERRYHILL UPPER SCHOOL - TIMINGS

Morning Meeting	08:30 – 08:45	
Period 1	08:45 – 09:45	
Period 2	09:45 – 10:45	
Break	Y10 10:45 – 11:00	Y11 11:00 – 11:15
Tutor	Y10 11:00 – 11:15	Y11 10:45 – 11:00
Period 3	11:15 – 12:15	
Lunch	Y10 12.45 – 13.15	Y11 12:15 – 12:45
Period 4	First half 12:15 – 12:45 Second half 13:15 – 13:45	Y11 12:45 – 13:45
Period 5	13:45 – 14:35	
Afternoon Meeting	14:35 – 15:00	

**Years 10 & 11**

## AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After school activities will continue at Ferryhill site, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Session will run from 2:50 - 3:30pm, unless stated otherwise.

**Monday - Trampolining :-  
Week A - Year 7 Week B - Year 8**



**Wednesday - Football**

**Wednesday - Board Games Club**



**Wednesday - English Club 3:00-3:30pm**

**Thursday - Netball**



## NEW - FILM CLUB

**Starting Tuesday November 2023  
Every Tuesday - 3pm - 4pm in room 6.**



# LEARNING HABITS



FERRYHILL  
SCHOOL

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POSITIVE  
RESPONSE

WE DO AS WE ARE ASKED FIRST TIME,  
EVERY TIME.



PUNCTUALITY

WE ATTEND EVERY DAY  
AND ARE ON TIME FOR ALL LESSONS.



CORRECT  
UNIFORM

WE WEAR THE CORRECT UNIFORM  
AND TAKE PRIDE IN OUR APPEARANCE.



EQUIPMENT

WE HAVE ALL THE TOOLS SO THAT  
WE ARE READY TO LEARN.



ON TASK  
BEHAVIOUR

WE ARE ALWAYS ON TASK IN EVERY LESSON  
AND BEHAVE WITH INTEGRITY OUTSIDE  
OF THE CLASSROOM.



GETTING IT RIGHT

# AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO OUR STUDENTS

As we embark on this new academic year, let us first acknowledge the undeniable truth: life is a journey filled with challenges! One of the most valuable lessons you will learn during your education is not just the content of your textbooks, but the art of overcoming obstacles, and the resilience to keep moving forward.

It's not about what you're up against; it's about how you choose to tackle it.

Here's how challenges can shape your journey to excellence:

## **1. Personal Growth and Resilience:**

Every challenge you face is an opportunity for personal growth. The process of overcoming difficulties builds your resilience. It makes you stronger, more adaptable, and better prepared for the challenges that lie ahead in your academic journey and beyond. Remember, it's not about avoiding adversity but embracing it as a chance to evolve.

## **2. Learning and Development:**

Challenges are our greatest teachers. They force us to think creatively, problem-solve, and develop new skills. When you overcome a challenging situation, you're not just learning from your textbooks but from the real world. Each obstacle is a chance to become a more knowledgeable, capable, and well-rounded individual.

## **3. Building Confidence:**

Every challenge you conquer boosts your confidence. It shows you that you have the strength and determination to overcome anything that comes your way. As you face the challenge of a new school setting, remember that by tackling it head-on, you're not just resolving an issue but also building the confidence to handle future challenges.

## **4. Achieving Your Dreams:**

Success is sweeter when it's hard-earned. Challenges are the stepping stones that lead you closer to your dreams. When you overcome obstacles, you're one step closer to achieving your goals. Think of every challenge as a test of your commitment to your aspirations and an opportunity to prove your dedication. As you navigate this year, remember that challenges are not meant to break you but to shape you into extraordinary individuals. Embrace them with determination, courage, and an unwavering belief in your abilities. Remember, you're not alone on this journey. Your teachers, parents, friends, and the entire school community are here to support.

**Stay inspired, stay resilient, and give it everything you've got!**





## Emotional Wellbeing

In order to support the transition to secondary school during the course of September we have arranged a number of workshops delivered by the Durham County Emotional Wellbeing Team.

More information will follow.



## Heads of Year

**Year 7:**

**Mrs Young**

**hyo@ferryhill.school**

**Year 8:**

**Mrs Rowley**

**aro@ferryhill.school**

**Year 9:**

**Mrs Craddock**

**ccr@ferryhill school**

**Year 10:**

**Mrs Hobson**

**gho@ferryhill.school**

**Year 11:**

**Mr Simpson:**

**psn@ferryhill.school**

## Learning Support

If you have any questions about your learning, please email us on:

**learningsupport@ferryhill.school**

## IT Support

If you have any questions about remote learning and accessing Teams email:

**itsupport@ferryhill.school**

## Teaching Support

If you require support from your class teachers they will remind you of their email addresses next week during online lessons

## General

If you have any general questions you can contact our general office on **general@ferryhill.school**

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about THE DANGERS OF VAPING

Data collected for ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) shows an increase in 11 to 17-year-olds experimenting with vaping: from 7.7% in 2022 to 11.6% in 2023. It's concerning that these age-restricted products are getting into the hands of under 18s as most contain nicotine, which can be detrimental to brain development and cause long-term addiction. Some schools have reported students having their focus in lessons affected by nicotine cravings; vaping in school toilets; and even trying vapes found in their local park. Raising awareness of the risks among young people could help to prevent these problems from escalating and reduce the number of young vapers.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### NICOTINE ADDICTION

Since they were initially developed to help people stop smoking, the vast majority of vape liquids contain nicotine. Not only is this a highly addictive stimulant, but it can also have detrimental effects on brain development in the under-25s. Nicotine can decrease the ability to pay attention, weaken impulse control, affect mood and increase the likelihood of substance addiction as an adult.

## WHAT IS VAPING?

Vapes contain a liquid (vape juice/e-liquid) that is heated by a battery and evaporates, creating a chemical vapour which the user inhales. They can be disposable (once the liquid or battery runs out, the vape is thrown away) or rechargeable (the user replaces the liquid and recharges the battery on demand). Most vape liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals.

### LACK OF AWARENESS

A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mainly because of the products' appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that "vaping is cool" and on trend. In many instances, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction; that is, they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.

### POTENTIAL TOXICITY

Many vape liquids have been found to contain 'heavy' metals such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury – all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some media reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes which don't comply with UK regulations.

### UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES

The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced into the UK in 2005 – and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harms that regular inhalation of these chemical fluids might have on the human body.

### ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING

The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently echoing the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around vape marketing, and vaping is often depicted positively on social media – which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.

### ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

In the UK alone, around 5 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components – a lithium battery and a chemical liquid – pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal; materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.

### WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS

Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because vaping reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria – resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. There are also concerns that, in some users, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, a persistent cough and breathing difficulties.

### UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS

The number of retailers willing to sell vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and higher levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the mechanisms inside unregulated products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checked – presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.

### SCARCE INFORMATION

The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vape fluids (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't required on vape packaging – with only medical disclaimers being found on the websites of the various brands.

### VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS

Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce some strawberry and banana flavour e-liquids can kill cells in the blood vessels and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead falling under the umbrella term 'natural and artificial flavourings'. Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.

## Meet Our Expert

Run by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Healthy Schools Service (Commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council), Catch Your Breath is a school-based project aimed at young people. Its goal is to embed a proactive, coordinated approach among both primary and secondary schools in discouraging smoking and vaping behaviours.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH

The National College

