



**John Batty**

Supt, Community Policing

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27th September 2024

Dear Head Teacher,

### **Use of E-Scooters by students**

I hope you are well and have enjoyed the summer break. At the start of this new academic year, I wanted to bring to your attention the increasing concerns regarding the use of e-scooters.

It is important to note that the use of privately owned e-scooters is illegal on public roads, pavements and cycle lanes, they are only legally allowed to be used on private land with the landowners' permission.

If young people are found riding a privately owned e-scooter in public they are committing road traffic offences. Therefore they could receive a warning, fine, penalty points on their licence (which would be created in the absence of one) their e-scooter may be seized and this could result in the e-scooter being destroyed.

The only e-scooters which can be lawfully used in public, are those which are part of an approved local authority scheme. These schemes require users to register through an App and ensure the user has the appropriate licence and insurance.

You may be aware that e-scooters have become a popular mode of transport amongst young people. However, their use poses significant safety risks, particularly in school environments. E-scooters can reach high speeds and there have been a number of recent reports of accidents which have led to serious injuries in the Thames Valley. The lack of protective gear further exacerbates the risk of injury.

Storing e-scooters on school premises can also present other risks. They add the risk of obstacles, and potential trip hazards, which poses a risk to students, staff and your emergency evacuation procedures. The batteries in e-scooters can catch fire very quickly and therefore pose a fire risk when stored, which could have devastating consequences in a school setting.

Given the above concerns, we are asking that schools consider implementing a ban on e-scooters on school grounds. This measure would significantly reduce the risk of accidents and injuries, creating a safer environment not only within school, but also on the way to and from school.

We appreciate your help and support in this matter and your commitment to the safety and wellbeing of your students.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Batty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'B'.

Superintendent John Batty  
Head of Community Policing Command