

West Heath School Ashgrove Road Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1SR

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Principal & Chief Executive: Mr J N Nunns

11th March, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As our students begin the new half term, we are providing this information in an effort to keep our children safe and healthy. As you may already know, West Heath School is a no smoking site and we aim to keep our school as an entirely smoke free environment. Like most schools, some students do try to push the boundaries and on occasions bring into school contraband in the form of cigarettes and lighters.

Over the next half term, and for the remainder of the academic year, staff will be talking to the students about the importance of being healthy and refraining from smoking. Help will be made available to those students who want advice on how to stop smoking/vaping by visiting the school nurse. If a student is found smoking/vaping in school action will be taken. In the first instance any smoking paraphernalia will be confiscated and parents/carers contacted. A second incident will result in an afterschool detention. If students are persistent, the school will need to consider more serious measures which may include exclusions.

We appreciate that for some of our students this may be a difficult transition and we ask for your support in this matter. You can help by ensuring that your child does not bring onto school site any substances which are banned; including loose tobacco, cigarettes, lighters, vapes, E-cigarettes or any substances deemed to be illegal. We also ask that aerosols are not brought onto the school site.

Whilst sixth form students may be of legal age to smoke, they must not do so whilst on school grounds. If they are found to be smoking within the school environment they will be subject to the same sanctions outlined above.

Although the school grounds remain a non-smoking site, after school hours, the school appreciates that for our weekly boarders the site is a home away from home. As such, those boarding students who are over 16 and have the legal right to smoke are asked to do so in a manner that respects the school rules, staff and younger students.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Becky Heaton

Deputy Principal















