



Dear Parents/Carers

As we go into the summer holidays and move towards a new school year, we would like to remind you about the law regarding electric scooters.

It has become apparent that many young people have already acquired or are in the process of obtaining electric scooters for their own use.

The only electric scooters that can only be used on public roads are those that are hired as part of the government-backed trials. We would also remind you that to use these trial scooters you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full or provisional driving licence. Private e-scooters can only be used on private land (with the landowner's permission) and not on public roads, cycle lanes or pavements.

Electric scooters are classed as powered transporters and fall within the legal definition of a motor vehicle under the Road Traffic Act 1998. This means that the same rules that apply to motor vehicles, apply to e-scooters. This includes, but isn't limited to:

- Driving with a licence
- Driving/riding with insurance
- Driving/riding other than on a road

It is not currently possible to get appropriate insurance for privately owned e-scooters meaning that it is illegal to use them on the roads or public spaces. If a child or adult is found riding a private e-scooter on a public road or land, the scooter may be seized and destroyed, and the person, including children could be liable for prosecution for driving without insurance. If the child or adult doesn't hold a provisional or full licence and is stopped riding an e-scooter, they could be prosecuted for driving other than in accordance with a licence, as well as having no insurance. Penalty points can still be issued where a licence isn't held. These points would take effect when the child or person applies for a driving license.

Our aim is to share this information so that we can keep children safe and out of the criminal justice system. We want to keep you informed so that we can work together to do this.

Please enjoy the Summer Holidays.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larisa Hunt'.

Chief Inspector Larisa Hunt

Early intervention, Crime Prevention and Licensing.