



24 November 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope this finds you all well. We continue to try and keep our communications specific to the Year groups of your children here at NLS. However today could I draw your attention specifically to two letters that are most certainly relevant to all parents and carers.

Firstly the letter composed by Mr Foxon who, amongst other things, leads on delivering our student leadership pathways. We often talk about students making the most of their time at NLS and taking all the opportunities on offer to develop into well rounded individuals, alongside that of gaining good quality academic outcomes. Along those lines, I was thrilled to see a record number of students receive both their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards last night here at school – thank you to all parents and carers who supported your child. The update helps showcase where student leadership opportunities exist and the vital role student voice helps to play within the continued development of our community. This chimes again with all those students who were recognised at the Duke of Edinburgh evening, who as part of the award spent time volunteering, many in our local community.

Secondly, a letter fashioned collectively as a group of Secondary School Head Teachers from our local community. We have all seen a rise in the use of vapes by students in our schools. We continue to educate all our students about the dangers associated with vaping but also are clear that bringing, using, sharing or distributing vapes at school will not be tolerated and students will be sanctioned accordingly. Unfortunately a combination of targeted child marketing, social media influence and the ease of which young people can purchase a vape has made them attractive to many children. Vapes are listed as a prohibited item which will be confiscated as outlined in our Behaviour Policy – any student found in possession, using or with those using a vape will be sanctioned and parents and carers contacted. I have also attached, for ease of reference, the vaping poster that was included in our last parent bulletin to support parents' and carers' understanding of vaping.

Lastly a reminder that next Friday 1 December the school is closed to students for a Teacher Training Day.

Have a great weekend.

Mike Lowdell
Head Teacher