



# SAFER



# SCHOOLS

## April 2023

Welcome to April's newsletter. We hope you all have a very happy and safe Easter break. As usual this newsletter has been designed to support and advise Parents and Carers of **both** Primary and Secondary school children, and therefore trust your personal judgement to share what you feel will be **relevant** information with your family.

## E-scooters and the law

### What is an e-scooter?

Electrical scooters come under the category of **powered transporters** basically, personal transport devices which are powered by a motor. E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles under the [Road Traffic Act 1988](#), which means the rules that apply to motor vehicles, also apply to e-scooters including the need to have a licence, insurance and tax. It's not currently possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces. If you're using a private e-scooter you risk the vehicle being seized under S.165 Road Traffic Act 1988 for no insurance. If you cause serious harm to another person whilst riding an e-scooter the incident will be investigated in the same way it would if you were riding a motorcycle or driving a car. If you're using an e-scooter in public in an antisocial manner, you can also risk the e-scooter being seized under [section 59 of the Police Reform Act](#).



### Legal use of an e-scooter

It's legal to use an e-scooter on private land with the permission of the land owner. If you don't have a licence, or the correct licence, or are riding without insurance you could face a Fixed Penalty notice:

- with a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for having no insurance
- up to £100 fine and three to six penalty points for riding without the correct licence



### You could also be committing an offence if you're caught:

- riding on a pavement (Fixed Penalty Notice and possible £50 fine)
- using a mobile phone or other handheld mobile device while riding (£200 and six penalty points)
- riding through red lights (Fixed Penalty Notice, £100 fine and possible penalty points)
- drink driving (the same as if you were driving a car, you could face court imposed fines, a driving ban and possible imprisonment).

When riding an e-scooter, we would always recommend wearing safety protection such as a helmet and to keep to the speed limit. Some sobering statistics, year ending June 2021, nationally:

- there were **882** accidents involving e-scooters, of these **173** were single vehicle accidents, this is around 20% of all e-scooter accidents
- there were **931** casualties in accidents involving e-scooters, of these **732** were e-scooters users
- of the **931** casualties, **3 were killed (all of them were e-scooter riders)**

Call: 101

Telephone: 18001 101

Visit: [cambs.police.uk](http://cambs.police.uk)

Follow: CambsCops

Subscribe: [eCops.org.uk](http://eCops.org.uk)

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Underage age drinking is a common issue that many parents and carers might have to deal with. Children and Young People are naturally curious about alcohol - they see people drinking and they want to know more. They will be influenced by their friends, TV, films and the media, however, you as parents/carers can have the biggest effect on influencing children and young people about their behaviour surrounding alcohol. Speaking to your family early on can help them to understand more about alcohol and its effects and will hopefully help them to make sensible choices about drinking in the future.

## The Law

The UK law around underage drinking can be confusing, but it is important to be aware of the guidelines. We have provided a snapshot of these to help you understand.

- **Under 5's:** It is illegal to give alcohol to under 5yr olds
- **Under 16's:** It is at the landlord's discretion as to whether children are allowed in a pub. Under 16's cannot buy or drink alcohol on the premises.
- **Under 18's:** It is illegal to buy alcohol (this includes in any shop or supermarket, off licenses and buying online).

For further information please follow this link [www.gov.uk/alcohol-young-people-law](http://www.gov.uk/alcohol-young-people-law)

## Police Powers

- Police have the powers to confiscate alcohol from anyone under the age of 18 drinking in a public place.
- Police have the powers to investigate those over 18yrs who knowingly purchase alcohol for anyone under the legal drinking age.

The following link is a valuable support guide for parents/carers to help navigate your way through these discussions. It also includes useful information about considerations whether to allow your children/young person to drink in the home environment. [Parent's guide about alcohol.pdf \(cchp.nhs.uk\)](http://Parent's guide about alcohol.pdf (cchp.nhs.uk))

For some fun and interactive ways that you can help to educate your children/young people to be safe around alcohol please visit [www.talkaboutalcohol.com](http://www.talkaboutalcohol.com) there are also some great games and challenges to share and are designed for all ages.

Please follow this link for the [challenge-zone/](http://challenge-zone/)





## Cannabis Fact File:

Unfortunately the Police have been made aware of young people smoking Cannabis in public places throughout the county in recent months. This is a good opportunity to educate yourselves and your family on the risks and consequences of smoking or being in possession of Cannabis.

- Cannabis is also known as marijuana, weed, pot, dope or grass
- Cannabis can be smoked or ingested (edibles)
- It is the most widely used, illegal drug in the UK
- Its use is wide spread throughout young people
- It can be addictive
- It is a recreational drug but also has medicinal purposes
- It is against the law to be in possession of Cannabis
- Cannabis is a **Class B** drug
- If under 18 (a child) the Police are allowed to inform parents, guardians or carers that their child has been caught in possession of drugs
- If you are found in possession of Cannabis you could face up to 5 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both
- Cannabis contains a large number of cannabinoids including THC and Cannabidiol
- Cannabis can trigger mental health issues and psychosis



If you need help, information or advice visit [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)



## Parent carer online hub

Fourth Thursday of every month

10.00am-11.30pm on Zoom

**Are you caring for a young adult or adult with additional needs.?**

Join our monthly online hub to chat with other parent carers who are caring for an adult family member.

- Time to chat and share experiences.
- Support and advice from carer advisors at Caring Together.
- Workshops and training - we will have occasional speakers come along to the hub.

The hub is free to attend for parent carers living in Cambridgeshire or Peterborough.

To find out more

0345 241 0954 • [hello@caringtogether.org](mailto:hello@caringtogether.org) • [caringtogether.org](http://caringtogether.org)

To book visit <https://parent-carer-online-hub.eventbrite.co.uk>



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We would love to hear your feedback & comments.

You can contact the team via our email

[SchoolsandCYP@cambs.police.uk](mailto:SchoolsandCYP@cambs.police.uk)

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