



VICTORIA POLICE

- Younger people are using e-cigarettes or vapes more frequently (One in five people aged 18-24 years old who have never smoked before; have tried the devices.
- Short term adverse effects of exposure to e-cigarettes are usually mild and transient, and may include nausea, vomiting, mouth and airway irritation, chest pain, and palpitations.
- **Vapes with nicotine is an Offence under Drugs Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981** (Possession of a Schedule 4 Poison – prescription only) **this is for children and adults.**
- Intentionally or accidentally ingesting nicotine e-liquids can lead to poisoning and is fatal in some cases. Evidence suggests that nicotine exposure during adolescence, a time during which the brain undergoes rapid development, may have a long-term negative impact on higher cognitive function. The brain keeps developing until about the age 25.
- **Even though most vapes don't state that they contain Nicotine THEY DO.** The amount of nicotine in each vape brand is unknown however the nicotine content in a vape can be equivalent to smoking a whole packet of cigarettes.
- It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes to minors, this includes adults or minors selling to minors.

Tobacco Act 1987

Section 12 Selling tobacco products or E-Cigarette products to persons under 18 years of age.

(1) A person must not sell a tobacco product or E-Cigarette product to a person under 18 years of age.

Penalty: In the case of a natural person, 120 penalty units or \$19,826.40 fine.
 In the case of a body corporate, 600 penalty units or \$99,132.00 fine.

- It is illegal for a store to advertise vapes, they must all be hidden and covered – not on display.

If you are aware of any information in relation to stores selling to minors please forward this on to your school leaders in order for them to pass on to the Proactive Policing Unit.