

WILTSHIRE POLICE



Police Headquarters

London Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN102DN

Raising awareness of the legal and safety issues around e-Bikes and e-scooters

Dear Headteacher,

We are writing to ask for your support in raising awareness among parents, carers, and guardians about the growing concerns around the illegal and unsafe use of e-bikes and e-scooters by children and young people across the county.

Police and partner agencies are seeing a sharp rise in the number of young people using these vehicles – many of which are not legally allowed on public roads, pavements or in parks.

There is also increasing concern around safety, with several incidents involving modified or high-powered vehicles capable of reaching significant speeds.

We would be grateful if you could share the following key messages with your school community, either through your usual newsletter, email communications or by printing and displaying the attached information.

What parents and carers need to know:

- **Privately owned e-scooters** are illegal to use on public roads, pavements, cycle paths, or parks. They can only be used on private land, with the landowner's permission.
- **E-bikes** (electrically assisted pedal cycles) are only legal if they meet strict conditions. Any electric bike that can be ridden without pedalling or travels faster than 15.5mph with motor assistance, is classed as a motor vehicle. It must be taxed, insured, registered and can only be ridden by someone with a driving licence.
- **Enforcement:** Police officers can seize e-scooters and illegal e-bikes. Riders may face warnings, fines, points on a future licence or prosecution.



- **Safety risks:** Many of these vehicles are capable of speeds over 30mph. When used without helmets, proper training or awareness of road conditions, the risk of serious injury is significant.

Wiltshire Police will be taking proactive steps this summer to deal with anyone found using e-scooters or e-bikes illegally.

We appreciate that some families may be unaware of the legal restrictions around these vehicles. By working together, we can help young people understand the legal and safety risks associated with using these vehicles unlawfully and keep our communities safe.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require further materials or support before the summer break.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Wiltshire Police

Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Roads Policing Unit