Subject: Important Information Regarding the Use of Privately Owned E-Scooters

Dear Headteacher / School Leadership Team,

We are writing to make schools aware of the legal position surrounding the use of privately owned e-scooters by pupils.

Legal Classification

Privately owned e-scooters are legally classified as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988. As privately owned e-scooters cannot currently obtain the insurance required for lawful use on public roads, it is unlawful to ride them in public places, including roads and pavements.

Responsibilities of Parents and Guardians

Parents, guardians and other adults should be aware that knowingly allowing a child to use a privately owned e-scooter unlawfully may result in the adult being prosecuted for a **"cause or permit"** motoring offence.

Allowing the use of an uninsured vehicle can result in **6 penalty points and a £300 fine**. Penalty points may also have implications for the individual's driving record and future vehicle insurance.

Consequences for Young Riders

Pupils who ride privately owned e-scooters in public may also face legal consequences. These can include:

Seizure of the e-scooter by police under Section 165 of the Road Traffic Act.
A penalty for **using a vehicle without insurance**, potentially resulting in 6 penalty points and a £300 fine.
A penalty for **riding without the appropriate driving licence**, potentially resulting in 3 penalty points and a £100 fine.
Additional penalties for offences such as ignoring traffic signals or using a mobile phone while riding.

Where a young person does not yet hold a driving licence, penalty points may be recorded against a **DVLA "ghost licence"** and can become relevant when they later apply for a provisional or full driving licence.

Request to Schools

We ask schools to ensure that pupils and parents are made aware of these legal requirements and the potential consequences of using privately owned e-scooters unlawfully.

Schools may wish to include this information in communications to parents, assemblies, newsletters and relevant road-safety education.

Our priority is to help keep young people safe and ensure that pupils and their families understand the legal responsibilities associated with e-scooter use.