

ANTI-VAPING POLICY

Policy Revised By	HOI	Policy Reviewed By	Anti-Vaping policy	CRESCENT/ AV 2026-27
Date of Review	03/03/2026	Approved by	Principal	
Academic year	2026-27	Next Review	03/03/2027	

Aim

In alignment with the **KHDA's anti-vaping Guideline**, this policy sets out the school's expectations, preventive strategies, disciplinary procedures, and support pathways related to vaping.

Through this policy, the school aims to promote a culture of safety, responsibility, and wellbeing, ensuring that all students learn in an environment free from health risks and harmful behaviors.

Policy Statement

The school is fully committed to promoting a healthy, safe, and supportive learning environment for every student. We recognize that behaviors which compromise student wellbeing—such as the use or possession of vaping devices—pose serious risks to physical health, emotional safety, and overall academic development. The school maintains a zero-tolerance stance toward the possession, promotion, or use of vaping devices on school premises, school transport, and during all school-related activities.

To protect the wellbeing of all members of our community, the use, possession, or promotion of vaping devices is strictly prohibited for **students, staff, parents, visitors, and contractors**.

This prohibition applies to all areas of school life, including:

- all indoor and outdoor areas of the school campus
- school buses and all school-operated transport
- school trips, camps, events, and any school-related activity

Students must not bring, use, share, or sell any vaping products, including:

- vapes, e-cigarettes, pods, cartridges, disposable vapes, or any related paraphernalia

In addition, the promotion, display, or advertisement of vape-related imagery or branding is not permitted, as it may encourage harmful behaviour.

Definition

Vaping: The act of inhaling and exhaling an aerosol, often called “vapor,” produced by an electronic device such as an e-cigarette, vape pen, or similar device. These usually contain nicotine, flavorings, and other chemicals, which are inhaled into the lungs. Which are harmful to health and can cause serious physical and mental health risks.

Recognizing Early Signs

- Unusual scents or smoke-like smell on clothing, in classrooms, or in home.
- Possession of unfamiliar items (vapes, pods, e-cigarettes, chargers)
- Sudden behavioral changes (irritability, withdrawal, secretive behaviour)
- Physical symptoms such as coughing, sore throat, or dizziness
- Changes in peer groups or sudden avoidance of certain areas.
- Frequent or prolonged use of washrooms or other secluded areas.

Appropriate Response Protocols

- Approach students calmly and privately to avoid embarrassment.
- Report to school safeguarding team.
- Support the student by guiding them to counselling or awareness sessions.
- Avoid punitive responses.
- Follow the Graduated Response Model.
- Work collaboratively as a team with parents and the school to maintain open communication and keep each other informed.
- Teachers and school staff must maintain confidentiality regarding any student information, incidents, or disclosures, sharing details only with authorized personnel as required to support the student’s safety and wellbeing.

Graduated Response Model

The school implements a **tiered approach** to address vaping incidents, combining **disciplinary measures with supportive interventions**. The goal is to correct behavior, protect student wellbeing, and maintain a safe school environment.

Tier	Incident Description	Actions / Interventions	Support Measures
Tier 1 – First Incident	Initial or minor vaping incident	-	-Completion of a short vaping awareness module -Counselling / wellbeing check-in if needed
Tier 2 – Second Incident	Repeated vaping or failure to comply after Tier 1	- Follow Second degree behavior policy action -Behaviour contract signed by student and parent -Mandatory counselling / wellbeing sessions - Reflection or supervised community service task	- Ongoing guidance from wellbeing team - Parent-school collaborative support plan
Tier 3 – Serious / Repeated Incidents	Persistent non-compliance or serious breaches (selling, sharing, promoting vaping devices)	-Follow Third degree behavior policy action -Case review by senior leadership team -Internal Time Out (as per school Behavior policy)	Intensive counselling and support plan Referral to safeguarding / KHDA if required - Close monitoring and follow-up meetings
Tier 4 – Extreme Cases	Endangering others or serious policy violations	- Follow fourth degree behavior policy action - Escalation to KHDA for review - Disciplinary action up to expulsion (rare, extreme cases)	- Individualized intervention plan - Multi-agency support if necessary

Key Features:

- Support-led: All tiers combine discipline with guidance and wellbeing support.
- Documented: Each incident, action, and intervention is logged for compliance and follow-up.
- Parent Involvement: Parents are informed at each stage to foster collaboration.

Preventive Education Strategies by School for Anti Vaping

The school will:

- Integrate vaping modules into Science/Health or Life Skills curriculum
- Deliver at least two wellbeing sessions per year focusing on vaping prevention
- Conduct one cultural/social influence workshop annually
- Ensure lessons are age-appropriate, factual, and aligned with KHDA health standards
- Train Student Ambassadors to lead anti-vaping campaigns
- Host two student-led awareness events per academic year
- Include anti-vaping initiatives within Student Council activities
- Encourage peer-to-peer dialogue to increase impact
- Staff Training: Teachers and staff are trained to recognize signs of vaping and respond appropriately.
- Provide guidance to parents on: Early warning signs, health risks, monitoring and communication strategies.
- Establish clear referral pathways to counselling and wellbeing support.
- Ensure collaboration between: safeguarding, wellbeing, school medical team, counsellors
- Hold regular team meetings to review support cases and track outcomes.
- Report incidents to KHDA through the safeguarding channel (if necessary)
- Maintain internal incident logs
- Analyses data every term to identify patterns
- Conduct internal audits.
- Using data findings and updates in KHDA Guidance policy will be reviewed annually

Strategic Partnerships with:-

- Dubai Police: For law enforcement guidance and support in cases of serious violations.
- Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA): For regulatory compliance and guidance on best practices.
- Ministry of Health and Prevention: For medical and health-related advice and support.

To ensure clarity and consistency, this policy is reflected across:

- The School Behavior Policy
- The Student and Parent Handbook
- Orientation programmers, assemblies, and student wellbeing initiatives

Preventive Education Strategies for Parents

- Effective Communication: Talk openly with your child about the dangers of drugs and answer their questions.
- Supervision and Monitoring: Know your child's friends, activities, and online use.

- Role Modeling: Set a good example for your child.
- Family Engagement: Spend quality time together and encourage positive family activities.
- Knowledge and Skills: Attend workshops to learn how to spot and respond to early signs of substance use.
- Work collaboratively as a team with school to maintain open communication and keep each other informed.

Confidentiality

The school will ensure that the identity of anyone who reports a vaping incident, whether a student, staff member, or parent, is kept strictly confidential. To protect those who raise concerns, the school will take all reasonable steps to ensure that individuals who report vaping do not face harassment, retaliation, or any form of penalty. We are committed to creating a safe and supportive environment where reporting vaping is encouraged, and all reports are handled with the utmost respect and confidentiality.

This policy will be reviewed annually, and particularly whenever there are significant legislative updates, changes in KHDA guidance, or modifications in school procedures related to student wellbeing and safety.

Signed  Dr. Saleem Jamaludhin(Director)

Date: 03/03/2026

Signed  Dr. Sharafudeen Thanikatt (Principal)

Date: 03/03/2026