



Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Ban on E-Scooters for Travel to School

I am writing to inform you of an important update regarding the use of electric scooters (e-scooters) by pupils travelling to and from school.

Following a review of current legislation and safety concerns brought to my attention by some in the Gilnahirk community, we are implementing a ban on the use of e-scooters for school travel, effective immediately.

Under Northern Ireland law, **privately owned e-scooters are not legal for use on public roads, footpaths, or cycle lanes.** They may only be used on private land with the landowner's permission. This is in accordance with The Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, which classifies e-scooters as motor vehicles. To be legally used on public roads, an e-scooter must be taxed, insured, registered, and the rider must hold a valid driving licence.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) has made it clear that using an e-scooter in public spaces without meeting these legal requirements may result in fines, vehicle seizure, or prosecution. Riders must be at least 16 years old and meet all the requirements of a road-legal vehicle, which excludes the vast majority of school-aged children.

In addition to legal restrictions, there are serious safety concerns. E-scooter-related accidents have increased significantly, and many models can reach speeds of over 40mph. These vehicles pose a risk not only to the rider but also to pedestrians and other road users.

For these reasons, we are asking all parents to ensure that their children do not use e-scooters to travel to school. Any student arriving at school on an e-scooter will be asked to leave it at home in future, and parents will be contacted.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a safe and legally compliant environment for all our pupils. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

D Corbett

Principal