



Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy

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Dear Parents/Carers

We are writing to make parents and carers aware of the legal position regarding the use of electric scooters (e-scooters) by young people.

We have recently received guidance from Northumbria Police regarding privately owned electric scooters. Many families may be unaware that, under current UK law, it is **illegal to ride a privately owned e-scooter in public places**, including roads, pavements, cycle paths, parks and other public land. Privately owned e-scooters may only be used on **private land with the permission of the landowner**.

The Government classifies privately owned e-scooters as **motor vehicles (powered transporters)**. This means that, to be used legally on public roads, they would need to meet the same requirements as other motor vehicles, including being taxed, insured, licensed and, where applicable, MOT tested. As these requirements cannot currently be met for most privately owned e-scooters, their use on public land is unlawful.

Parents should also be aware that the police have the power to **seize electric scooters** being used illegally under **Section 165A of the Road Traffic Act 1988**. In addition, riders may receive **fines and penalty points on their driving licence** (or future driving licence).

The safety of our students is always our priority. We have concerns about the increasing number of young people travelling to and from school on e-scooters, often without appropriate safety equipment and sometimes in busy pedestrian areas. Alongside the legal implications, these vehicles can present a significant risk of injury to both riders and other members of the public.

As a result, from September 2026 students should **not travel to or from school on privately owned electric scooters**, and they must not bring them onto the school site. Any concerns regarding their use may be shared with our local policing team.

We would be grateful if you could discuss this matter with your child and ensure that they understand both the legal restrictions and the safety risks involved.

Further information can be found on the Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/electric-scooter-rules>

Yours faithfully

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal