

West Mercia Headquarters,
Hindlip, Worcester, WR3 8SP
Date: 20th September 2023

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

We are writing to you following a number of concerns that have been raised by the local community regarding the use of E-scooters and hoverboards on the road network.

We understand that buying one can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers. It can also create confusion as it is legal to buy them but becomes illegal to use them in any public place, road, pavement, or cycle lane. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land. The reason for this is that e-scooters are treated, in legislation, as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements including:

- MOT
- Drivers Licence (Class Q)
- Road Tax
- Insurance

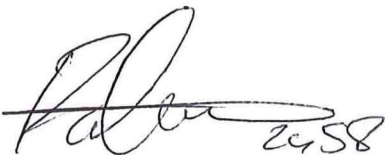
To outline that it is currently not possible to obtain insurance for e-scooters in the U.K.

You may have seen e-scooters for hire, but these were subject to exemptions as they were part of a government trial. There are currently no government trials taking place within West Mercia. If your child is found using an e-scooter or hoverboard in the above circumstances the Police Officer/s may use powers provided to them to seize and destroy the scooter. Every effort will be made to contact you immediately and, if applicable, arrange for you to collect your child from the location. In some circumstances, there may be offences committed by parents of allowing or permitting your child to ride without insurance or a driving licence.

The aim of this letter is to educate the community about the risks of using e-scooters in a public place and hopefully this letter will prevent enforcement being required. We would very much seek your support in our approach to safeguarding children and help us to reduce the risk of harm to your child and to other vulnerable road users. For further information please visit the West Mercia Police website and type in 'e-scooter' to the search area.

Thank you for your support on this matter.

Yours Faithfully,



Inspector Richard Field
District Inspector

