

# VAPING/ E-CIGARETTES



NSW Police Force



E-cigarettes are battery operated devices that hold heat and e-liquids that emit vapours that users inhale. Using an e-cigarette is called vaping. E-cigarettes can look like traditional cigarettes, cigars or everyday items such as USBs or pens.

E-liquid can contain nicotine which is the same drug present in regular cigarettes and other tobacco products, this means that vaping can also become addictive. **E-cigarette products bought in Australia are not legally allowed to contain nicotine.**

If purchased somewhere else (online/overseas) they may contain nicotine as labelling may not be regulated as it is Australia, even when labelled as 'flavoured', e-liquids can still contain nicotine.

E-cigarettes often contain chemicals like propylene glycol, glycerol and ethylene glycol, some of which are known to cause cancer.

Although it is illegal in Australia, e-cigarettes are sometimes used to vape/inhale cannabis and other illicit drugs. Cannabis e-liquids can contain ingredients which are not listed on the label including nicotine and/or other drugs. This can increase the risk of addiction to vaping.

## SALE, PURCHASE AND POSSESSION ON E-CIGARETTES AND ACCESSORIES



Under the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2000

- It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes and accessories to or buy these products of behalf of someone who is under 18 years of age.
- A police officer may seize a tobacco product, non-tobacco smoking product or e-cigarette in possession of a person in a public place if the officer suspects on reasonable grounds that the person is under the age of 18 years.
- E-cigarettes and accessories cannot be seen by the public, displayed or advertised anywhere inside or outside a retail shop.
- E-cigarettes and accessories cannot be sold from temporary and mobile premises such as a market stall or stand, a tent or a car, and cannot be given out as a free sample.
- Retailers can only sell e-cigarettes and accessories from a single point of sale in each retail outlet and cannot promote or include these products in a shopper loyalty program.