



Schools Link Message

Vapes being sold on TikTok

TikTok has evolved into an online marketplace but its shopping feature presents certain risks, particularly for the young people who are not scam aware but are TikTok's target audience.

ITV News has recently investigated the sale of illegal vapes being sold on TikTok appearing to be targeted at children, by disguising them as stationery.

One seller advertised a mystery box of stationery on the app's e-commerce platform using images of mugs, notebooks and pens.

But a size selection dropdown menu on the listing reveals that it is actually vapes on sale, with the menu listing flavours and numbers - which appear to refer to the number of 'puffs' each vape contained.

A TikTok account linked to the shop promised "no ID verification" on their user page, where they created videos about the vapes they sold.

ITV News saw examples of the account reassuring seemingly underage customers that orders would be sent with discreet postage, and claiming no identification checks were necessary.

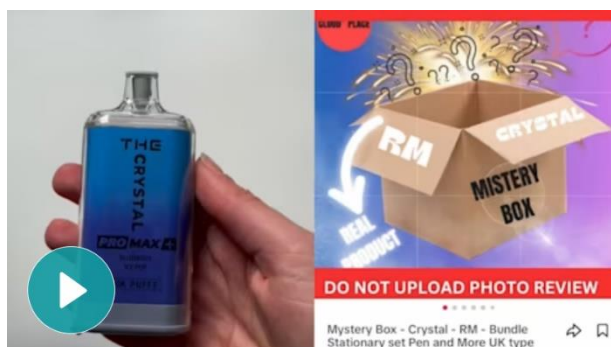
For the full article please see:

[Vapes being sold on TikTok Shop 'to under 18s' disguised as stationery | ITV News](#)

The minimum age to purchase a vape in the UK is 18 years old, whether in-store or from online retailers. It is illegal to sell them to those who are underage. Selling vapes or tobacco products on TikTok Shop is also banned.

The other issue with online 'shops' is that they are also selling illegal vapes – those which exceed the legal tank size, have not been through any safety checks and are not registered with the Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency

Parents should be checking their children's use of social media and what they are spending their money on. Using illegal shops such as this also leaves their bank accounts and payment methods vulnerable to fraud.



Screenshot from the article showing how the sale of illegal vapes is disguised.