TRANSPORT AND FOOD IN SCHOOLS DIRECTORATE

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School Principals
Education Authority

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CANNABIS OIL DISGUISED AS CONFECTIONARY

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a warning we have received from the Public Health Agency that they are aware of products that look like familiar sweet products with colourful packets, familiar cartoon images and which are appealing to children, but that in fact contain cannabis extract, or THC (the main psychoactive ingredient in cannabis).

A young child assessed in hospital had inadvertently consumed cannabis after finding what they believed to be a packet of sweets on the ground. While on closer inspection the sweet packet is labelled as containing THC, to all other purposes they look like a common brand of sweets which are marketed for children.

Please can you make staff and parents aware of the information contained in this letter and the photographs of the seized products below. If you have any further information relating to these incidents or similar circumstances please contact the PSNI and forward any information to DAMIS@hscni.net.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Rose McNaughton.

MARGARET ROSE McNAUGHTON
Director of Transport and Food in Schools

Further Information on the Cannabis Containing Products and Their Effects:

The effects of THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) involves the central nervous and cardiovascular systems. In adults the effects are generally mild and short-lived but ingestion rather than inhalation is associated with longer lasting effects.

As children often have a smaller body mass than adults the effects may be more profound and can include:

- Loss of coordination
- Hallucinations
- Nausea/vomiting
- Lethargy, collapse or loss of consciousness
- Cardiovascular

There have been a few seizures of similar products (see images below for examples) - labelled 'Medicated Nerds Ropes, 400 mg THC per rope' and 'Medicated Nerdz Rope Bites, 600 mg THC'. Analysis has confirmed the presence of THC. The sweet edibles are available in a variety of flavours, and sold in branded packaging- SXEDIBLES. Other branded packaging from SXEDIBLES, 'millionz bites, 600 mg THC'- also confirmed to contain THC, with the product available in multiple flavours. Other products have names which often have a slight variation of a familiar sweet product e.g. have received 'Harribo Fruitilicious'- wrapped jelly like sweets or Calibo Xtra Strong'