



NSW Police Force

30 August 2022

Dear Parents,

Gel Blasters in New South Wales

New South Wales Police would like to highlight an emerging issue which many of you might not be aware of.

Gel Guns or Gel Blasters are lifelike 'toy' guns that closely resemble firearms. They fire gel balls and can be very difficult to differentiate from a real firearm. They are classified as air guns under NSW law and gel balls are classified as ammunition.

It is a crime to possess a Gel Gun in NSW unless you have a firearms licence, even if it was purchased online or legally in another State. It is also a crime to bring a Gel Gun to school. There is potential for injury if a person is struck by a gel pellet ammunition and understandably students and staff may become frightened and distressed if they believe a firearm has been brought into the school.

If a student is found to have a Gel Gun in a school, it will be confiscated, parents and the police will be called. The student may face disciplinary action through the school and could be arrested and charged with possession of a firearm. Parents may also be held liable as per Section 82 of the Firearms Act.

On 1 July 2021, New South Wales Police commenced an ongoing National Firearms Amnesty along with all other states and territories. This allows for any firearms or firearm related articles to be surrendered to a police station without fear of prosecution. If this issue relates to you please ensure you contact your local police station prior to attending and ensure the firearm is in a bag or wrapped in a blanket.

My sincere thanks for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Gavin Wood APM
Assistant Commissioner
Capability Performance and Youth Command