

Hover boards: Should they be banned?

Over the past year, Hoverboards, (or *Swegways*) have been the trending craze for teens around the globe. They were first released in August 2014 but became popular during the summer of 2015. Although many people fell in love with this new technology, lots of people disagreed with having them out in public.



Many celebrities have been

influencing young teens to buy a hover board including Justin Bieber, Brooklyn Beckham and Wiz Khalifa. Hover boards were probably on the top of most people's list for Christmas last year. This worried a lot of parents as not only do they range from £300 to £1200, but some cheaper fraud makes of the technology have been proved to explode. One make in particular uses a lithium-ion battery which when put under extreme heat, can burst into flames. When a hover board is running, it can overheat very easily. This creates danger as this make of hover board could burst into flames whilst someone is riding it.

There have been lots of complaints about the hover board being used in public and especially on roads. The CPS announced that they are too unsafe for the road and too

dangerous for the pavements. They confirmed that the hover boards are only to be used on private property and must have the owner's consent. Most people were glad of the outcome but many were disappointed that they now can't show off their technology.

We held out a survey for the teachers and students at Sir Harry Smith Community College about whether they think hover boards should be banned. 40% of people said that they should be banned in public, but not completely. The other 60% of people said that they shouldn't be banned but should have training on how to actually use them. Some students also said they shouldn't be banned because they like watching hover board fail videos compilations on YouTube. What do you think?

