

Health and Safety Policy 5.14

ALCOHOL

Purpose

- To support student well-being by prohibiting consumption of alcohol by students for any school activity.
- To reduce potential harm in relation to the consumption of alcoholic beverages by adults at school events.
- To ensure legal requirements are met.

Coverage

This policy covers all school organised activities and includes events on and off the school site, during and outside school hours.

Rules

At any school organised activity:

- Students may not consume alcoholic beverages
- Students may not be under the influence of alcohol
- Students may not be in possession of alcoholic beverages except for the purposes of an approved classroom activity under teacher supervision (eg Health or Science class)
- Alcohol may not be offered as a prize

At any school camp or excursion (EOTC)

- No alcohol may be consumed by any staff member or volunteer that is participating in the activity

School Student Social Event

- For the purposes of this policy, social events include ~~the formal~~ ~~socials~~ ~~or~~ ~~dances~~
- Student social events must be alcohol free
- The school may employ security guards to support the enforcement of this policy
- Students caught under the influence of alcohol or attempting to bring alcohol to the event will be asked to leave immediately into the care of a parent or guardian. The DHS student partner of an external guest will also be asked to leave
- The alcohol-free status of the event applies to every student attendee and their guest, irrespective of their age (ie over 18 year olds will also need to remain alcohol-free)

Functions

Organisers of any school event where alcohol is intended to be consumed must:

- Obtain approval from the Board of Trustees to have alcohol at the event
- Prohibit the consumption of alcohol by students
- Ensure the legal requirements for the sale and/or provision of alcohol are met as prescribed in the Sale and Supply of Liquor Act 2012:
 - A temporary liquor licence is required for events where payment is required to attend the event and the ticket price includes the supply of alcohol and/or over-the-counter sales of alcohol. The licence identifies
 - whom alcohol can be sold or supplied to,
 - the hours and days alcohol can be sold or supplied,
 - who is allowed on the premises,
 - conditions related to promotion and prizes, and
 - the range of food and non-alcoholic drinks that will be available.
 - Evidence of an ~~on~~ premises+licence should be made available to the school no later than 24 hours prior to the event being held
 - It is illegal for students under 18 years to be sold alcohol.

When considering whether to allow the consumption of alcohol on school premises, the Board should consider:

- Attitudes of the school's community
- School policies related to drug education and health and wellbeing

Examples of the types of application that the Board may approve are:

- Private functions organised by the Board
- Outside organisations hiring or leasing school buildings
- Private staff functions

Staff Functions

The wellbeing and safety of the staff remain with the school at any staff arranged functions, whether at school or off site. The school must adhere to The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 in being a responsible host.

Where the school is supplying alcohol for staff functions:

- Non-alcoholic drinks and food should also be available
- The event organiser or Principal may refuse to provide drinks to any person who they believe to be intoxicated
- Alcoholic beverages supplied by the school may not be removed from the event venue
- Non-staff invited guests are the responsibility of the person who invited them
- The event organisers are responsible for ensuring safe travel options for staff to and from the school for off-site events
- The responsibility of the school ends when the event concludes, when the account is finalised, or when the Principal or event organiser publicly announces the event has ended

Responding to breaches of this policy

- Breaches of this policy will be treated as a serious matter and investigated by the Principal with the investigation report referred to the Board of Trustees
- The Principal should notify the Police if the source of the alcohol supplied appears to breach the Sale and Supply of Liquor Act 2012
- For breaches of this policy during off site school activities:
 - a preliminary investigation is conducted by the teacher leading the activity
 - the Principal or SMT is consulted where possible
 - where reasonably manageable, students who have breached the policy will be returned to school or home

Communicating this policy

This rules in this policy will be communicated to the school community by:

- Inclusion in the school rules section of the student diary and calendar
- Inclusion in the All staff must know this annual written briefing
- The policy being accessible on the school website
- Inclusion in permission letters and verbal briefings for overnight school trips and social events

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 8 May 2018