

ALCOHOL POLICY

Policy owner: Senior Deputy Head

SLT Policy

Policy Summary Statement:

This policy outlines the school's approach to alcohol, ensuring the safety, well-being, and education of all pupils. It applies to all members of the school community, including boarding and day pupils. The school is committed to fostering a safe and responsible environment where pupils understand the risks and consequences associated with alcohol.

This policy refers only to internal school events. For external events which take place on the school premises in which alcohol is sold, e.g. to members of the public, there is a Licencing Agreement with Huntingdon District Council in place.

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INTRODUCTION

This policy outlines the school's approach to alcohol, ensuring the safety, well-being, and education of all pupils. It applies to all members of the school community, including boarding and day pupils. The school is committed to fostering a safe and responsible environment where pupils understand the risks and consequences associated with alcohol.

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OBJECTIVES

- To safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of pupils.
- To provide clear guidelines on the possession, consumption, and distribution of alcohol.
- To educate pupils about the effects and consequences of alcohol consumption.
- To reinforce the school's expectations regarding behaviour and responsibility.

RULES

The possession or consumption of alcohol by pupils of any age, including those over 18, is strictly prohibited on school premises or during school-related activities (on or off-site, including school trips), except in the circumstances outlined below.

- There may be school occasions when alcoholic drinks may be consumed but only in the presence of a member of staff and, with their parents' or boarding Hm's knowledge and permission. Alcohol will only ever be allowed for Sixth Formers. Pupils below the Sixth form can never drink alcohol at school. Whenever alcoholic drinks are served, non-alcoholic options will also be available. Alcohol will not be served without a meal or food to accompany.
- Only beer, wine or cider are permitted. Spirits should never be consumed by pupils. Individual drinks served will normally be limited to 330 mL for beer or cider, or to small wine glass size.
- Alcohol will only be given to pupils or poured for them by a member of staff. No pupil can give someone else an alcoholic drink or pour for themselves or others.
- At other school events where alcohol is served, there will be multiple staff members on duty and alcohol will be served at a designated point with a record kept of how many alcoholic drinks a pupil has been given.
- Sixth Formers will only be allowed a set limited number of alcoholic drinks at certain school events, normally no more than three at an event where dinner is provided.
- Pupils driving to and from school functions must never drink any alcohol.
- There will be occasions where alcohol may be offered to sixth form boarders, for example at a meal, BBQ, or other social event. Consent from parents will be sought before boarders are offered alcohol in the boarding environment. Boarders will never be permitted to have alcohol in, or take alcohol to, their rooms.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

The school incorporates alcohol education into its PSHE curriculum to ensure pupils:

- Understand the physical, mental, and social consequences of alcohol consumption.
- Are aware of the risks of dependency and addiction.



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• Are equipped to make informed and responsible choices.

PREVENTION AND MONITORING

Pupils are encouraged to speak openly with staff if they are concerned about alcohol-related issues. Searches may be conducted, in line with the school's behaviour policy, if there is reasonable suspicion of alcohol possession.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Breaches of this policy will be treated seriously and may result in disciplinary measures, including: Parental notification, written warnings, loss of privileges, suspension or expulsion for serious infractions.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITY

• All staff must act as role models, refraining from consuming alcohol in the presence of pupils except in limited amounts during functions at which alcohol is being served.

• Staff supervising events or trips are expected to enforce this policy and report any breaches promptly.

• Staff will never engage in drinking alcohol in a one-to-one situation with a pupil, including within the boarding environment.

* Staff supervising trips are expected to abide by the rules set out in the Educational Visits Policy, which is found in the Educational Visits Handbook for Teachers.

SUPPORT

The school is committed to providing support to any pupil struggling with alcohol-related issues. Pupils and parents can approach the school's pastoral team or counsellor for confidential advice and assistance.

PARENTS

If a parent attending School premises appears to be under the influence of alcohol, they will be asked to leave and the member of staff making the request should refer the matter to the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead or Senior Leadership.

If a member of staff suspects that a parent has driven or will drive under the influence of alcohol, the member of staff should report the matter immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or a member of the Senior Leadership team who may telephone the police.

If the Designated Safeguarding Lead reasonably believes that a child is at immediate risk of harm from a parent who is under the influence of alcohol, the child will not be released into the care of the parent and the School's child protection procedures will be followed.