



ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO (INCLUDING E-CIGARETTES (VAPES)) YEARS 7 TO 13

The College seeks to comply with the law of the land with regard to alcohol and tobacco and wishes to encourage its pupils to behave in a way which is deemed to be fitting for them.

As part of its Wellbeing programme the College believes that it should ensure that its pupils have a substantial knowledge of current medical opinion about the use of alcohol, tobacco including e-cigarettes. The objectives of the education provided by the College are:

- to educate pupils on the effects of tobacco and alcohol on the mind and body;
- to provide opportunities for pupils to practise personal and social skills, and the strategies needed to deal with situations where they may be offered alcohol and tobacco;
- to provide pupils and parents with information about 'help' agencies;
- to remind pupils that it is illegal to sell cigarettes to anyone under the age of 18 and that the selling or supplying of alcohol to other minors is also prohibited;
- to remind pupils that it is particularly serious to drink alcohol and/or smoke in College uniform;
- to inform pupils of the College's own position.

Any pupil found to be in possession of, or using alcohol or tobacco on College premises or when representing the College will face suspension. After a second offence, they may face exclusion. There is a separate policy which addresses smoking and drinking of alcohol on Outings and Expeditions. The College will, however, consider any incident involving alcohol or tobacco on an individual basis and recognises that a variety of responses will be necessary to deal with such incidents.

In the case of alcohol, there may be certain occasions where pupils who are legally permitted to drink alcohol may be allowed to do so, under strict guidance and supervision of the College. In decisions it makes, it will comply with the law and seek to balance the interests of the pupil with the interests of other members of the College.

The College wishes to support parents as well as it can and will seek to inform them in general terms about the education policy for alcohol and tobacco. Parents will be informed by the College if their son is involved in any incident involving either substance. Boys who wish to cease smoking and drinking are encouraged at any time to seek assistance from members of College staff.

Guidance to Staff

If you believe that a pupil attending a College event is:

- drinking alcohol when he should not be drinking alcohol;

- drinking alcohol he is not permitted to drink; and/or
- drinking alcohol to excess,

he/she should promptly report the matter to the staff on duty.

If you believe, or it is reported to you, that a pupil may have either alcohol or tobacco, including vapes on their person or in his possession at the College, you should report the matter to the Head of School or Year Head immediately. Action by the Head of School will then be taken.

- The pupil will be seen by the Head of School and another member of staff together and told that the accusation has been made.
- He will be asked to empty his pockets, bags etc. in front of the Head of School and a staff witness. His locker(s) may also be searched. Searches will be conducted in accordance with the College's Search & Confiscation Policy and the relevant Department for Education guidance.
- If a pupil refuses, they will be detained, and parents will be contacted.
- Parents will be informed of the accusation, and the results of any subsequent search.
- The pupil will be asked to write his account of the incident.
- A decision will be made about the method of dealing with the incident. Parents will be informed.

Any member of staff who believes that a pupil or pupils are using or supplying alcohol, tobacco or vapes whilst on College premises should report the matter immediately to the Head of School or Year Head, who will investigate the allegations following the above guidelines.

Policy Owner:	Senior Deputy
Last Reviewed:	September 2024
Date of Next Review:	As required (and no later than Academic Year 2025-26)