



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

College Policy on Alcohol

Because of the widespread use and acceptance of alcohol in society, it is right that the College should educate its pupils about the dangers associated with this depressant drug, while seeking to encourage a mature, responsible attitude towards it amongst all drinkers. The College's policy can be summarised as follows:

- (a) Education for all pupils about alcohol is covered by the PSHE programme.
- (b) At College functions, private or public, involving pupils the following code is adhered to:

Lower School: Alcoholic drinks are never supplied

Upper school: On certain occasions, and with clear controls in place, alcoholic drinks may be offered to pupils. No more than 2 pints of beer/cider or 2 glasses of wine are to be supplied to any pupil on any occasion.

Soft drinks and water will always be available freely as an alternative to alcoholic drinks.

When a pupil moves into the Upper School they and their parents are invited to consider their behaviour in relation to access to alcohol, and sign an agreement acknowledging their responsibilities in respect of the College rules. (Appendix 1)

Upper School pupils who choose, with parental permission, to drink alcohol at school, agree to clearly defined limits to their consumption and the monitoring of these via the regular use of breathalysers, in houses and at social events.

- (c) In the Upper Sixth any pupil may obtain permission to visit pubs or licensed restaurants on Saturday nights provided they:
 - (i) obey the Licensing Laws
 - (ii) carry a College Smartcard which bears their photograph, name, house and date of birth and undertake to show this to any publican on demand
 - (iii) do not exceed the rations of beer, wine or cider permitted by the College
 - (iv) never drink spirits
- (d) Drunkenness and the consumption of spirits is viewed very seriously and in the Lower School can result in suspension, while for members of the Upper School the normal sanction is two Cautions. The latter punishment is given to any Sixth Former who is found to have supplied alcohol to a member of the Lower School.
- (e) Pupils in the Upper School who exceed the agreed limits on the consumption of alcohol will lose the privilege of being offered alcohol at school. Intoxicated pupils will be admitted to the Sani and in addition to a disciplinary sanction, may face a charge for additional staffing costs incurred in their care.

It is hoped that knowledge of the College's policy on alcohol at school will be helpful to parents in organising private parties for teenagers in the holidays.

Author: Management Team

Where found: College Website, Parents' Handbook

Policy Date: Michaelmas 2018

Review Date: Michaelmas 2020



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College Policy on Alcohol – Pupil/Parental Permission

The College Policy on Alcohol can be found at the bottom of the page on the College website

The College recognises that there is a significant shift in its policy between the Lower School, where alcoholic drinks are never supplied; and the Upper School, where on certain social occasions and with clear controls in place, alcoholic drinks may be supplied to pupils. It is right, therefore, to use the occasion of entry to the Upper School to ask parents and pupils to consider this policy and its implications.

By choosing to drink alcohol at College social events on term-time Saturdays, Lower Sixth pupils agree to abide by the limits set by the College, (amount allowed and breathalyser limit) and to drink **only** that which is supplied by the College; e.g. at the Marlburian Social Centre or at House based equivalent social events. In the Upper Sixth pupils agree to abide by the limits set by the College and, further, to agree to abide by the conditions set out in the College Policy on Alcohol if they exercise the privilege of visiting the town on Saturday nights.

Signing the agreement below also indicates an understanding that a pupil who does not abide by the College guidance in respect of alcohol will be subject to disciplinary consequences. These may include withdrawal of the privilege of access to alcohol at College social events for a specified time period, as well as the usual sanction system. Pupils admitted to the Sani as a result of alcohol, will face a £95 charge to the bill, which helps defray the cost of the auxiliary nurses required at the Sani when intoxicated pupils are admitted for their own safety.

Parental permission must be sought for Upper School pupils to be served alcohol at College functions, including Saturday evening social events, during term time. We would ask that parents discuss this carefully with their children, and return this form to Lady Cayley, Deputy Head (Boarding).

Parents may wish to withhold their permission until such time as they feel confident their child is capable of mature independent decision making with respect to alcohol and peer pressure.

Parents who withhold permission at the start of a pupil's Lower Sixth career may give their permission at any time subsequently, in writing, to their child's HM.

I give permission for my child to be served alcohol at school functions.

I do not give permission for my child to be served alcohol at school functions.

Pupil Name:.....House.....

Pupil Signature:.....Date:.....

Parent signature Date