



ALCOHOL AT SCHOOL EVENTS POLICY

Rationale

At Elsternwick Primary School (EPS), strong community links between school, students and families are promoted through numerous annual social and fundraising events, some of which involve the provision of alcohol to, or consumption of alcohol by, adults. EPS actively discourages alcohol consumption by adults during student focused activities, both during and after normal school hours.

Policy establishes when alcohol may be provided or consumed at School Events on and off school premises, during and after school hours, and during school camps and excursions. It encourages acceptable and responsible consumption of alcohol by adults at school events.

EPS recognises that alcohol must be served and consumed responsibly and in accordance with this policy, Department of Education and Training (DET) guidelines and State liquor licensing laws and regulations. This policy applies to all adults attending School Events.

Definition of 'School Event'

A 'School Event' is an event that has been approved by School Council and may be located on or off school premises.

'School Events' do not include events located off school premises which have been organised by parents, guardians or individual class representatives independently from the school. These events are not covered by this policy and are not the responsibility of EPS.

Aims

- For alcohol consumption to be restricted to School Events which are conducted outside normal school hours and which students are not expected to attend.
- For alcohol to be served and consumed legally and responsibly at School Events.
- For School Events to comply with Department of Education alcohol guidelines and with state liquor licensing laws and regulations.
- For all parents, staff and School Event coordinators to be aware of the Alcohol at School Events Policy and to model appropriate behaviour in relation to alcohol consumption.

Implementation

1. Restriction of consumption and provision of alcohol

During school hours: All School Events on school premises must be alcohol free where that event is held during school hours. All School Events held off school premises and where children are present and/or which involve children participation must be alcohol free where that event is held during school hours.



After-school hours: All School Events where children are present and/or which involve children participation shall be alcohol free where that event is held after school hours, whether on or off school premises (unless School Council has allowed alcohol as an exception, refer to 2. below).

- School Council may review School Events in its discretion and allow alcohol to be served or consumed as an exception when children are present when considered appropriate. In such a case, the procedures listed under **2.** below, must be followed.
- Students should not be involved in fundraising events which have an alcoholic beverage as a prize.

School camps and excursions: Staff and volunteer parents supervising on school camps and excursions are required to adhere to the Alcohol at School Events Policy.

- All school camps and excursions must be alcohol free. Alcohol consumption by students, staff and parent volunteers on excursions or school camps is prohibited.
- Staff supervising on school camps and excursions are referred to the DET guidelines regarding their obligation to act in accordance with their duty of care towards students which is in force during the entire time of the camp or excursion.
- Staff must be aware that consumption of alcohol by staff during camps or excursions is:
 - inconsistent with the standard of professional conduct necessary to maintain community confidence in these activities.
 - is considered unwise.
 - could lead to allegations of negligence and loss of WorkCover rights.

Students: EPS does not provide alcohol education for its primary school students. EPS prohibits the consumption of alcohol by students at school events or any school organised activity.

2. Permitted provision/serving/consumption of alcohol

School Council approval must be obtained for all School Events where alcohol will be provided and/or consumed.

At after-hours School Events where children are not expected to be present, alcohol may be sold to or consumed by adults (for example, where adults BYO) provided the following procedures are complied with:

- i) An application must be submitted to the School Council for approval prior to the event, noting the names of the event coordinator(s).
- ii) The event coordinator(s) must be aware of and enforce the legal requirements for the sale and/or provision of alcohol in public situations at School Events, and is required to comply with State liquor licencing laws and with the Alcohol at School Events Policy.
- iii) Parents are required to model appropriate and responsible behaviour at these events.

ELSTERNWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Date passed by School Council: 2017
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Related Policies

Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy
Supervision and Duty of Care Policy
School Camps and Outdoor Education

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually.
This policy was ratified by School Council in July 2017.