

ST KILLIAN'S COLLEGE



ALCOHOL POLICY

*Board of Governors
03 March 2011*

Rationale

The abuse of alcohol is considered to be detrimental to the development and education of our young people and is likely to undermine their health, safety, independence, opportunities and respect for the law. Such abuse also damages the whole college community, by placing other students in a position where they may be exposed to temptation and to the risk of disciplinary action.

Aims

- To prevent students from abusing alcohol at any time and to ensure that students do not bring alcohol in to the college, consume it illegally on either campus, buy or sell alcohol or cause others to drink illegally, on either campus
- To recognise the Law and how it relates to alcohol and young people
- To encourage students to adopt a responsible attitude towards alcohol and to make them fully aware of the dangers, both to themselves and to others
- To promote a responsible attitude towards alcohol through the PSE programme
- To create an awareness of short/long term physical and mental effects of heavy drinking
- Explore ways in which students can resist peer pressure

Roles and Responsibilities

- Alcohol is widely available and is used by an increasing number of young people during the course of their post-primary education and that is a significant problem and source of worry to parents and staff, which must be addressed both at home and college.

Students

- The college prohibits the consumption by all students.
- Alcohol is not available at college events or on social occasions and this is carefully monitored by all staff.

Members of Staff

- Members of staff will participate in staff development on this issue and will remain vigilant in noting abuse of alcohol by students, staff or visitors to the college. Any such abuse by students will be dealt with.
- Any incident of staff or visitor abuse will be notified to the Principal immediately.

Visitors and Hiring of Premises

- The college prohibits the use or sale of any alcoholic beverages and the possession or consumption in any form in the college except in those areas where the Principal has authorised the serving of legal beverages.
- No alcohol will be served at any function during the student college day.

Implementation of Policy – Prevention of Alcohol Abuse through Education

- A programme of alcohol education is provided through timetabled sessions of PSE at KS3, KS4 & Post 16.
- The college recognises that students who infringe the alcohol policy may need help and guidance and support will be offered.
- A record of any incident will be kept by the Pastoral Co-ordinator together with subsequent sanctions and copies of letters to parents

Guidelines for Dealing with a Student who is under the Influence of Drugs/Alcohol/Solvents

Stage 1

- Send for assistance: member of SLT, or Head of Year
- Isolate the student and restrain if necessary
- Contact doctor, hospital and parent as required

Stage 2

- Member of SLT assess the situation
- Contact doctor, hospital and parent as required
- Try to find out what has been taken, when and if there are further supplies
- If necessary, conduct a search of college property in presence of witness
- Only with the student's consent and only in the presence of another member of staff should a student's property or clothing should be searched. The only exception would be if a student is unconscious

Stage 3

- Contact a doctor, hospital and parent as required
- If not in immediate danger the parent is to take student home/to doctor/hospital
- Inform external agencies if required