

# Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy

## Sancta Sophia College

Sancta seeks to promote a safe and healthy learning environment for students. This includes reducing harms associated with alcohol and other drugs for all members of the Sancta community.

### 1. Principles

Sancta Sophia College recognises that every member of our community has the right to live, study and work in a safe and supportive environment. All members of the Sancta community - students, staff, Council members, guests - have a role in creating and maintaining a safe, respectful and healthy environment.

Consumption of alcohol and other drugs must be understood within the context of Commonwealth and State laws, as well as community expectations, health advice and social frameworks.

### 2. What to do if things go wrong

From time to time, a student or guest of the College might consume alcohol (or other substances) to a degree necessitating medical attention. It is essential that everyone in the College recognises that the safety and wellbeing of the individual concerned is of primary importance. Students should not hesitate to seek assistance from staff, including Resident Assistants (RAs) or emergency services in times of need.

When in doubt, Sancta staff, including RAs, will call an ambulance to ensure student safety.

The Principal, Vice Principal, Dean of Students and RAs are equipped to support students who are experiencing difficulties (whether immediate or longer term) to access services related to alcohol or other drugs.

After hours students can call the RA on duty if required on 0419 479 832.

If the need is urgent, do not hesitate to contact an ambulance for assistance on 000 (triple zero).

### 3. Alcohol

Responsible consumption of alcohol is permitted at Sancta Sophia College. It is recognised that alcohol consumption is part of the College's social environment but alcohol consumption that has harmful physical, behavioural or social outcomes is not permitted.

#### 3.1. Students and guests under 18 years of age

Only students and their guests over the age of 18 years may consume alcohol. It is a criminal offence in NSW to supply alcohol to a person under the age of 18 years. There are no circumstances in which a person of 17 years or younger may be offered or may consume

alcohol - to do so is considered a major breach of this policy and will result in disciplinary action for all parties involved, up to and including expulsion from the College.

### **3.2. Liquor license**

At Sancta Sophia College, alcohol may only be served and supplied under the terms of the liquor license held by the College caterers. Alcohol may only be sold or served to students (and their guests) under that license.

All service of alcohol at Sancta must comply with the requirements of the Liquor Act 2007 (NSW) and the University of Sydney Liquor Accord.

All students (and guests) may be required to present identification (proof of age) on any occasion should they wish to be served alcohol.

### **3.3. Availability, sale and promotion of alcohol**

Any Sancta Sophia College event that includes alcohol must have the prior approval of the Principal or Vice Principal. In addition, all events:

- must adhere to the liquor license held by Sancta's caterers on behalf of the College
- must include the free availability of water
- must have other non-alcoholic drinks available for free or for sale (as the context of each event dictates)
- must have appropriate security and risk mitigation procedures in place

The following alcoholic beverages may not be served without the express permission of the College Principal or Vice Principal:

- Spirits that are served straight or mixed on site
- Ready-mixed drink products with more than 5% alcohol

Any promotion of alcohol products or brands is prohibited at the College. Sancta events may not receive sponsorship that entails the promotion of alcohol products or brands.

The consumption of alcohol must be ancillary to, and not the primary purpose of, any Sancta event.

House Committee (HC) and Senior Common Room (SCR) funds may not be used for the purchase of alcohol without the express permission of the Principal or Vice Principal. If approval is granted for HC and SCR funds to be used, all alcohol must be purchased through the College caterers.

Strict Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) guidelines will be applied to any event involving alcohol, to be practised by the College's contracted caterers, supported by management. The Principal or Vice Principal may, at their discretion, impose additional oversight or limitations on the provision or consumption of alcohol to promote safety and wellbeing.

### **3.4. Physical spaces where alcohol may be served**

Alcohol may not be consumed in any public area within the College without the express permission of the Principal or Vice Principal. A public area is defined as any area outside of student bedrooms. This includes areas such as corridors, dining areas, the Quadrangle and the rooftop of Graduate House.

Students may drink in their bedrooms as this is considered private space. Note that:

- students may not transgress any rules pertaining to the safety and security of themselves, others or property while drinking in their bedrooms

- should students wish to host friends in their bedroom on any occasion where alcohol will be consumed, they must avoid any disruption to anyone else in the College at that time, and immediately comply with any request from a fellow student, RA or staff member to minimise noise or other disturbance. Sancta staff (including RAs) may ask guests to leave at any time. Failure to support such a request will result in disciplinary action against the host student

### **3.5. Standards of behaviour**

The following standards around the consumption of alcohol apply to all students of Sancta and their guests. Failure to meet the following standards will result in disciplinary action, up to and including exclusion from the event or College grounds or suspension or expulsion from the College.

- Students (or their guests) under the age of 18 will not consume alcohol
- Students (or their guests) will not drink with the aim of becoming intoxicated
- Students (or their guests) who are intoxicated will not continue drinking
- No-one will provide or serve alcohol to anyone who is intoxicated irrespective of the context
- Students (or their guests) will not be subjected to pressure of any kind to drink alcohol
- Students (or their guests) will not be involved in drinking games or competitions within Sancta

### **3.6. Roles and responsibilities**

As a student of Sancta Sophia College, you are responsible for:

- managing your consumption of alcohol and limiting it to appropriate occasions and activities
- acting appropriately before, during and after the consumption of alcohol - and ensuring your behaviour does not cause harm to yourself or others
- being free of the influence of alcohol (or its after-effects) when it may impact your academic performance
- referring yourself to appropriate support - or seeking support to do so - if your use or consumption of alcohol impedes your ability to work or study or presents a risk to yourself or others
- confidentially seeking help or advice from staff when you become aware of other students being harmed by their consumption of alcohol

## **4. Drugs other than alcohol**

### **4.1. Smoking and vaping**

Smoking and vaping are prohibited at Sancta, including in Sancta buildings and on Sancta grounds.

### **4.2. Illegal and inappropriate drug use**

The inappropriate use of drugs is prohibited at Sancta.

Inappropriate drug use should be understood to be:

- any drug prohibited under NSW or Australian Law

- any prescription medication not used as prescribed or used by someone other than the person to whom it was prescribed
- any over-the-counter drug, product or substance not used in accordance with medical advice, the manufacturer’s instructions and/or for its officially promoted purpose

The provision, supply, trafficking, selling or possession of any drug is strictly prohibited at Sancta.

The possession or use of any drug-related paraphernalia is prohibited at Sancta.

Any breaches of Sancta’s policy regarding drugs other than alcohol will result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the College.

### 5. Disciplinary matters

Intoxication or the influence of alcohol or other drugs will not be considered as a defence or as a mitigating factor in any disciplinary action against a student.

All students are expected to comply with Sancta Sophia College policies and respect the College ethos. The Principal or Vice Principal may apply disciplinary consequences for the good order and conduct of the College. How these consequences are applied is determined by the nature of the behaviour in question. Serious breaches of these rules will result in disciplinary consequences up to and including expulsion from the College.

### 6. Changes to this policy

The College reserves the right to alter this policy (and associated procedures) as it sees fit. Additional alcohol restrictions will be introduced should it be found that the above is not serving the best interests of the College and its students.

### 7. External resources available to assist students

Resources offered by The University of Sydney:

Campus Security	9351 3333	24 hours
Counselling and Psychological Services Jane Foss Russell Building	8627 8433	9am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday
University Health Services Wentworth Building	9351 3484	8:30am - 5pm Monday to Friday
Student Support Services	8627 6808 or email: <a href="mailto:safer-communities.officer@sydney.edu.au">safer-communities.officer@sydney.edu.au</a>	9am - 5pm Monday to Friday
Disability Support	8672 7422 <a href="https://www.sydney.edu.au/students/disability-support.html">https://www.sydney.edu.au/students/disability-support.html</a>	9am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday

Other resources:

Alcohol and Drug Information Service (ADIS)	1800 250 015
Family Drug Support	1300 368 186
NSW Mental Health Line	1800 011 511
NSW Rape Crisis Centre	1800 424 017 (24 hours)
1800RESPECT www.1800respect.org.au	1800 737 732 (24 hours)
Beyond Blue Telephone Counselling	1300 224 636
Lifeline Telephone Counselling	13 11 14
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Sexual Assault Service (Ground Floor, KGV Building, RPAH)	9515 9040 (Monday-Friday, business hours) 9515 6111 (after hours)
NSW Police Newtown Police (222 Australia Street, Newtown)  Glebe Police (1 Talfourd Street, Glebe)	Emergency: 000 9550 8199  9522 8099