



ALCOHOL

Revised January 2016

Rationale

While alcohol consumption is a part of Australian society, people have different expectations about what is reasonable and responsible in different settings. This document aims to create an Alcohol Policy which is relevant to family events held at Somers Primary School, while complying with Liquor Licensing laws and the guidelines proposed by DEECD. Refer policy entitled 'Alcohol' on the Department's web site – www.education.vic.gov.au – for further details.

In general it is not appropriate to permit alcohol to be served or consumed on school premises, especially when school children are present. On occasion, however, alcohol may be served or consumed on school premises at particular events. In such instances, this needs to be carefully managed. Schools have a duty to ensure that the supervision of children is appropriate at all times and that the reputation of the school is not damaged by inappropriate behaviour at social occasions.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that staff, parents and the community are aware of restrictions on the provision, consumption and serving of alcohol within Somers Primary School or at a school-organised activity.

Aim

- For all parents and staff to be aware of the Alcohol Policy and to model appropriate behaviour in relation to alcohol consumption.
- For alcohol to be served and consumed responsibly and in accordance with the Liquor Licensing Act and licence restrictions.

Implementation

School Council is responsible for granting permission for functions to be held on school premises at which alcohol is to be supplied or sold. School Council will ensure that all requirements relating to the sale or supply of alcohol, as detailed in the Liquor Licensing Act, are met.

School Council must ensure that issues related to the duty of care owed both to students and staff, community standards and expectations, and the reputation of Somers Primary School, are taken into account in making decisions in relation to the use of alcohol on school premises.

All events where alcohol is present on school grounds require the Principal and event coordinator to be mindful of and comply with the Alcohol Policy. For such events, the following also applies:

- A Liquor License application must be submitted to the relevant State authority at least 8 weeks prior to the event.
- The Liquor License, once issued, must be displayed on the premises for the duration of the event. All requirements of the Liquor License must be adhered to.
- DEECD guidelines with regard to the provision, consumption and serving of alcohol must be followed. Refer policy entitled 'Alcohol' on the Department's web site – www.education.vic.gov.au – for further details.
- There must be at least one volunteer parent present with a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) certification. The names of all RSA-certified persons must be held at the School office for the duration of the event.
- Parents are required to model appropriate and responsible behaviour and must maintain a high level of safety and wellbeing for children during events where alcohol is present.
- Sufficient non-alcoholic drinks, including water, must be made available to patrons.
- Each event must have a designated area where alcohol can be consumed. This area will be clearly indicated on the Plan of Licensed Premises which will accompany the Liquor License application.
- The event where alcohol is provided, consumed or served must have a defined starting and finishing time.
- No person under the age of 18 may serve or consume alcohol at the school.
- Alcohol may not be provided, consumed or served within the school on prescribed school days between the hours of 7:30 am and 6:30 pm.
- An independent audit of alcohol must be conducted at regular intervals throughout the duration of and at the conclusion of the event.
- Where alcohol is donated to the School for a specific event, any unsold stock must be returned to the donating organisation as possible after the conclusion of the event.

School Council may agree to add to this policy on a case-by-case basis for specific events.

All complaints or grievances relating to this Policy will be managed in accordance with the School's Complaints Resolution Policy.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed with staff, student, parent and community input as part of the School's policy review cycle.