



## ALCOHOL POLICY

### RATIONALE

At Sacred Heart College we strive to foster a culture that encourages the development of self-assured, critical thinking young people and a community where relationships are based upon the core Mercy values of compassion, justice and respect. Sacred Heart College is committed to learning, to the care of others, to forming character and to building a supportive community where individuals are accountable for their own behaviour. Partnerships exist and are valued between school, home and the community.

While alcohol consumption is part of Australian society, people have different expectations about what is reasonable and responsible. Sacred Heart College acknowledges that there are occasions when alcohol can be served and consumed on school premises and at school functions held off-campus. As the safety and wellbeing of students is paramount, the consumption of alcohol by adults at school-related functions must always acknowledge its impact on young people. This policy relates to the College and all affiliate groups, and at its core is our duty of care owed to students and staff, and our responsibility to ensure that the reputation of the school is not damaged by inappropriate behaviour at social occasions.

### DEFINITIONS

*School functions:* events and activities held on school premises; events and activities involving staff and/or students held off-campus; or events and activities held by organisations and individuals hiring school premises.

*School premises:* all locations that are part of the campus, including Celies Dining Room, McAuley Hall, the servery and Cranbourne Gallery, and Learning Centre.

*Prescribed school hours:* the hours between 8.45am and 3.45pm on school days.

*Students:* all enrolled students of Sacred Heart College.

*VET Hospitality:* the Vocational Education and Training program being undertaken by senior students involved in front- and back-of-house training as part of the VCE program.

*Adults:* all staff, parents and members of affiliate groups involved in school activities, or adults attending functions on school premises.

*Liquor Licensing Act:* an Act of the Victorian Parliament that relates to temporary and permanent licenses required for the sale and consumption of alcohol at school functions.

### POLICY STATEMENT

The Principal is responsible for:

- granting permission for functions to be held on school premises at which alcohol is to be supplied or sold;
- ensuring that all requirements of the *Liquor Licensing Act* are met relating to the sale or supply of alcohol;
- ensuring that issues that relate to (1) the duty of care owed both to students and staff, (2) community standards and expectations, and (3) the reputation of the school, are taken into account in making decisions in relation to the consumption of alcohol on school premises.

All alcohol to be consumed at the College must be ordered, received, stored and served by staff members who have Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) accreditation.

Deliveries of alcohol must not be left on public display during the school day or at locations frequented by students, unless they are involved in the VET Hospitality program. It is the responsibility of the person ordering alcohol to ensure that it is stored in a secure location within an hour of being delivered to the school.

Serving of alcohol at school functions must comply with RSA regulations. Students involved in the VET and VCAL program who have RSA accreditation may serve alcohol on the condition that they are supervised by the Function Centre Manager. Casual staff employed by the school to be involved in the serving of alcohol must have RSA accreditation and report to the Function Centre Manager.

Students, regardless of age, may not consume alcohol on the school premises. Consumption of alcohol at off-campus College functions such as the Valedictory Dinner deems students to be under parental supervision.

A driver of a bus or any other vehicle must not have alcohol or drugs present in his or her blood or breath immediately before, or while, driving a bus.

### **ASSOCIATED PROCEDURES**

Applications for liquor licences  
Venue booking and hire procedures  
Event-planning procedures  
Responsible Serving of Alcohol procedures

### **RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Banned-Substances Policy  
Community Use of School Facilities Policy  
Mercy Education Ltd Code of Conduct

Date Approved: 15 October 2015

Name: Anna Negro

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date presented at Council Meeting: 15 October 2015

Person Responsible for Implementation: The Principal

Last amended: 17 March 2017

Next Review Date: 2018

Location Checklist:  Staff Handbook  Students  Parent Portal  Website