



ALCOHOL POLICY

Senior School

Committee normally reviewing:	Senior Leadership Team
Date last formally approved :	April 2016
Date policy became effective :	October 2008

Period of Review:	Three years
Review Date :	November 2019

Person responsible for implementation and monitoring :	Senior Deputy Head
Other relevant policies :	Safeguarding and Promoting Pupil Welfare Policy Catering and Food Hygiene First Aid Policy Health and Safety Policy Pastoral Care Policy Personal and Citizenship Education Policy and Scheme of Work Promoting Positive Behaviour for Learning and Code of Conduct Policy Supervision of Pupils Policy

The following policy covers the aims and ethos of the Senior School

[Aims of the School](#) Click here

[Ethos of the School](#) Click here

C.J. Townsend
Head, Senior School

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Felsted is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all pupils and a 'culture of vigilance' to safeguard and protect all in its care, and to all aspects of its 'Safeguarding (Child Protection and Staff Behaviour) Policy'.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

The aims of the School and the principles of excellent pastoral care will be applied to all children irrespective of differences in ethnic background, culture, language, religion, sexual orientation, gender and disabilities, so long as in the last matter the student is able to involve himself or herself in the activity concerned; equally these differences will be recognised and respected, and the School will aim to provide a positive culture of tolerance, equality and mutual respect.

ALCOHOL POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

The consumption of alcohol is forbidden for all pupils in Years 9-11 when on the school site or on a school trip. There are significant sanctions for bringing drink into Houses or consuming alcohol at any other times than those allowed for Sixth Form students. Sixth Form pupils, in Years 12 and 13, are allowed to consume limited drink, with food served, in specified locations and at specified times only. The school takes the view that this is part of an educative process encouraging pupils to be responsible for themselves and others by drinking in moderation and in a controlled way.

2. LICENSING

A fuller explanation of the *Licensing Act 2003* is included in the Appendix. Since the premises are licensed it is not permissible to give alcoholic drinks without charge to 16 and 17 year old students, other than where specified below.

The areas that are licensed around the school are as follows:

- a) The Cromwell Centre: this is exclusively for the sale of alcohol to over 18s, although the courtyard may be granted an external location to eat a table meal to make it possible for a Sixth Form Social to be held there in the appropriate weather.
- b) The Lord Riche Hall: under certain guidelines this is the only area where alcohol may be consumed by 16 or 17 year olds when a charge is made within the ticket price. If alcohol is served, that alcohol may only be served as part of a table meal. The LRH may be used for events as long as the bar is a distinct area and under 18s do not buy alcohol from the bar.
 - 16 or 17 year olds may consume alcohol only during a table meal. The definition of a table meal would be the need to use a knife and fork to consume the food (a plated meal, for example, rather than nibble food).
 - Once that part of the evening is over, then the 16 and 17 year olds may not consume any further alcohol, for example when the function changes tempo from dinner to a dance/disco or other activity.
 - The law states that an individual under 18 may not purchase alcohol. Alcohol will only be served to under 18s at the table with their meal.
 - There will be a limit to the number of drinks an individual of 16 or 17 years could have whilst eating, normally two drinks (one per

course). Once the table meal part of the evening is over individuals who are under 18 may only purchase/consume non-alcoholic drinks. The bar and the collection point would be manned by a member of the CR and a member of staff from the Catering Department.

- If any social event is for the whole school, alcohol will not be served to anyone. The majority of social events are segregated into Sixth Form venue and Lower School venue, with alcohol served as above in the Sixth Form venue only.

3. SIXTH FORM BAR IN THE CROMWELL CENTRE

- a) A member of staff is appointed to run the Sixth Form Bar (The Bar Manager).
- b) The bar will operate 9.05 – 10.00 pm (Wednesdays), 9.05pm – 10.00 pm (Saturdays) and 9.05pm – 10.00 pm (Sundays).
- c) Alcoholic drinks cannot be sold in the Sixth Form Centre. The School will provide **full and occasional boarding members of the Sixth Form** with food and the following amount of drinks without charge.
Wednesdays 1 drink
Saturdays and Sundays 2 drinks
Drinks are beer, wine, cider and soft drinks. Additional soft drinks will be provided.
- d) The Bar Manager will administer a system to ensure that these amounts are not exceeded.

4. SERVING ALCOHOL TO PUPILS IN PRIVATE HOUSES

- a) Sixth Form pupils may be offered alcohol by members of Common Room under the following circumstances:
 - The Senior Deputy Head has given permission in advance (the exceptions to this are the Headmaster and HMs who need not seek permission);
 - The only alcoholic drinks which may be consumed are beer (lager or bitter), cider or wine;
 - Soft drinks are also on offer and ideally nibbles, or even better, food;
 - The alcoholic drinks are served by the member of Common Room who is the host – pupils must not be allowed to serve themselves;
 - The amount of alcohol served is limited;
 - There are no Lower School pupils present;
 - This takes place in the private side of Boarding Houses or in the homes of member of Common Room.

- b) It is the responsibility of the host Member of Common Room to ensure that such occasions (such as the entertaining of Prefects, a successful team etc) are sober and restrained.
- c) Any alcohol consumed by members of Common Room must be in accordance with the Staff Behaviour Policy and the Safeguarding (Child Protection and Staff Behaviour) Policy.

5. ALCOHOL BAN

Sanctions for abusing the Sixth Form privilege of drinking alcohol as outlined above can include Gating, or even a period of temporary exclusion from school. The school reserves the right to ban any Sixth Form student from alcohol consumption at any time, as a sanction or a matter of pupil welfare.

6. SPIRITS

The consumption of spirits is strictly forbidden by all pupils when at school or on a school trip. Pupils who are involved with spirits can expect to be suspended on the first occasion. Staff are never permitted to allow pupils to drink spirits while at school or on a school trip.

7. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed periodically by SLT, the HMs, the General Services Manager and the Healthy School Committee. Any changes to legislation will be considered but the School reserves the right at all times to interpret these in the interests of the welfare of pupils, subject to the law.

C.J. Townsend
Headmaster

April 2016

APPENDIX 1: LICENSING ACT 2003

- a) The Act relating to the sale and consumption of alcohol was brought into force on the 24th November 2005. This Act has an impact on the way alcohol is served and supplied at events and functions where pupils/guests are under the age of 18.
- b) For those over the age of 18 little changed in the new Act. However, the law now states that 16 and 17 year olds are permitted to drink beer (lager or bitter), wine or cider, only under supervision and in the company of adults and only in a room set aside for eating with a table meal, provided that the drink is bought by an adult (someone over 18). A table meal is defined as being a substantial meal which is eaten at a table or similar surface (but not at a bar) with a knife and fork. The alcohol may only be consumed with the meal and not before or after. It does not permit the consumption of alcohol by 16 and 17 year olds at any other type of event or function.
- c) In addition, no Felsted School pupil aged 18 or over may buy alcohol for any pupil whether over or under 18 years of age to consume with or without a meal. Thus Felsted School has a tighter policy than the new Act in this regard.
- d) The new legislation treats the School like all other licensed premises so it is an offence to sell or supply alcohol to those under the age of 18 years. Both the School and any individual supplying alcohol can be charged with the offence. It is also an offence for a pupil under the age of 18 to buy or attempt to buy alcohol or, where he/she is a member of a club (such as the Sixth Form Club), for alcohol to be supplied to him/her by or on behalf of the club.
- e) Below is reproduced the portion of the Act that is applicable to the school. These two sections of the Act relate to the sale and consumption of alcohol by 16 and 17 year olds.

149 Purchase of alcohol by or on behalf of children

- (1) An individual aged under 18 commits an offence if:
 - (a) he buys or attempts to buy alcohol, or
 - (b) where he is a member of a club:
 - (i) alcohol is supplied to him or to his order by or on behalf of the club, as a result of some act or default of his, or
 - (ii) he attempts to have alcohol supplied to him or to his order by or on behalf of the club.
- (2) But subsection (1) does not apply where the individual buys or attempts to buy the alcohol at the request of:
 - (a) a constable, or
 - (b) a weights and measures inspector,

who is acting in the course of his duty.

- (3) A person commits an offence if:
 - (a) he buys or attempts to buy alcohol on behalf of an individual aged under 18, or
 - (b) where he is a member of a club, on behalf of an individual aged under 18 he:
 - (i) makes arrangements whereby alcohol is supplied to him or to his order by or on behalf of the club, or
 - (ii) attempts to make such arrangements.
- (4) A person ("the relevant person") commits an offence if:
 - (a) he buys or attempts to buy alcohol for consumption on relevant premises by an individual aged under 18, or
 - (b) where he is a member of a club:
 - (i) by some act or default of his, alcohol is supplied to him, or to his order, by or on behalf of the club for consumption on relevant premises by an individual aged under 18, or
 - (ii) he attempts to have alcohol so supplied for such consumption.
- (5) But subsection (4) does not apply where:
 - (a) the relevant person is aged 18 or over,
 - (b) the individual is aged 16 or 17,
 - (c) the alcohol is beer, wine or cider,
 - (d) its purchase or supply is for consumption at a table meal on relevant premises, and
 - (e) the individual is accompanied at the meal by an individual aged 18 or over.

150 Consumption of alcohol by children

- (1) An individual aged under 18 commits an offence if he knowingly consumes alcohol on relevant premises.
- (2) A person to whom subsection (3) applies commits an offence if he knowingly allows the consumption of alcohol on relevant premises by an individual aged under 18.
- (3) This subsection applies:
 - (a) to a person who works at the premises in a capacity, whether paid or unpaid, which authorises him to prevent the consumption, and
 - (b) where the alcohol was supplied by a club to or to the order of a member of the club, to any member or officer of the club who is present at the premises at the time of the consumption in a capacity which enables him to prevent it.
- (4) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply where:

- (a) the individual is aged 16 or 17;
- (b) the alcohol is beer, wine or cider;
- (c) its consumption is at a table meal on relevant premises;
and
- (d) the individual is accompanied at the meal by an individual aged 18 or over.