



SEDBERGH SCHOOL & CASTERTON, SEDBERGH PREP SCHOOL

Alcohol, Tobacco and Vaping Policy	
Version	2023.1
Effective from	September 2023
Extent of Policy	Sedbergh Senior School Casterton, Sedbergh Prep School
Policy Owner	Senior Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Governor	Tim Davies
Review by	September 2024
Frequency of Audit	Annual
Circulation	Parents by request
Publication	The Hub Website

We have extensive health education and PSHE programmes at Sedbergh School and CSPS that focus upon the potential risks from excessive consumption of alcohol and risks of smoking in all its forms, including vaping. They concentrate on teaching the importance of young people making healthy, informed choices. The programmes involve pupils of all ages and continue throughout your child's time at the school. They extend across the curriculum, involving PSHE, Science and Drama lessons. We also have Assemblies on the topic, and from time to time make use of visiting lecturers to cover the serious risks from abuse of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances. (Please refer to our separate policy on drugs and drug testing.) The School seeks to take active steps at all times to promote the health and wellbeing of all our pupils and it is in this context that this policy has been developed and is implemented in all School settings.

Our Medical staff play an active role in promoting greater awareness about the risks involved, and will offer informed medical advice. Pupils can discuss their individual worries about drinking and smoking with their Housemaster/Housemistress, Tutor or AHSM. They can also

refer themselves to the Medical Staff and to the Independent Listener for individual guidance, without fearing sanctions or adverse report. We may invite groups of parents and guardians to discussion groups and meetings, and are very conscious of the importance of working together in order to promote the well-being of your son or daughter.

We do not allow the pupils at Sedbergh School and CSPS to bring alcohol, tobacco or vaping materials onto the premises, or to consume these substances on the journey to or from School. Pupils are forbidden to visit pubs or bars unless accompanied by their parent(s) or guardian or with the express permission of their Housemaster/ Housemistress. The purchase, use or possession of smoking materials and alcohol are forbidden. This rule applies to all School trips and visits, whether in this country or overseas, irrespective of whether or not pupils are wearing School uniform at the time. Sedbergh School is a public place; smoking in all its forms is therefore illegal for everyone, including staff and visitors, unless in a designated area.

We will offer beer and wine to parents and guardians at certain formal events, including plays and concerts to which they are invited. We believe that pupils in their final two years at the School should learn that the moderate consumption of alcohol has its place in our culture. We therefore offer limited quantities of wine and beer (but never spirits) to members of Years 12 and 13 whose parents have returned and signed the permission slip. Such events are always supervised by staff and soft drinks are always available. Younger pupils are not allowed alcohol. Pupils who may appear to be in an intoxicated condition may be asked to provide a breath sample to determine the level of alcohol. This will be performed using a properly calibrated alcometer.

Sixth Form Bar

Pupils in Years 12 and 13 over the age of 16 whose parents have provided written permission may use the Sixth Form bar. For these pupils there will be access to a very limited amount of alcohol carefully controlled by the members of staff on duty. Pupils may be breathalysed before being permitted access to any alcohol in School.

Visiting licensed premises

Pupils may visit the public houses of Sedbergh between the hours of 5.30 p.m. and 7.15 p.m. with their parents or guardian and the permission from their Housemaster/ Housemistress on each and every occasion. On such visits, pupils must wear School uniform and may not drink alcohol.

Pupils will not be given permission to consume alcohol before any of our whole-School socials.

In exceptional circumstances, a Housemaster/Housemistress may allow a pupil to visit licensed premises with the parents of another pupil. In such circumstances, pupils must have permission on each and every occasion from his or her Housemaster/mistress. The guest is the responsibility of the parent at all times and the above rules apply.

Balls & Dinner Parties

Sedbergh pupils will have numerous opportunities to attend various Balls and Dinner parties during term time. At these events, pupils in the sixth form will have access to beer or wine

during dinner, but not before or after the meal has finished. Pupils attending such events will not be given permission to attend licensed premises before the event.

In all circumstances, the Law of the land must be observed.

Sanctions

- Pupils who breach these guidelines on alcohol can expect age-appropriate sanctions to be applied. Sanctions for prep and senior school pupils will be either suspension or expulsion depending on the circumstances. Senior school pupils who drink excess alcohol can also expect to lose the right to visit Public Houses and/or the sixth form bar in future.
- Due to the seriousness of the potential consequences, pupils found to have brought spirits into school or drunk spirits during term time are liable to suspension from School.
- Any pupil caught smoking or vaping will be put in the following Saturday night detention.
- Due to the ease with which vaping equipment can result in harmful addictions or potentially be used to access unauthorised substances, pupils found to have been vaping are likely to be asked to undertake a drugs test. (Please see Drugs & Drug Testing Policy.)
- Pupils who supply vaping equipment for other pupils, or those who are repeat offenders, will be HM gated or suspended from School, depending upon the seriousness of the offence.

A pupil may be referred for a session of counselling where we have reason to believe that he or she has issues with either alcohol, tobacco or other unauthorised substances, or where there are repeated infringements.

The School's policy on the use of licensed premises also applies to Exeats taken in Sedbergh.

Dr J M Burns
Senior Deputy Head (Pastoral)
September 2023

Action Point:

UNDERTAKING	BY WHOM
Housemasters/Housemistresses should ensure that all sixth form pupils intending to consume alcohol at the sixth form bar or School social have a completed membership form which can be obtained from the Parent Handbook or below.	HSMs

To parents of pupils entering the Sixth Form aged over 16



Membership form for sixth form pupils to use Queen's Hall Bar

Permission is given for my son/daughter to use the facilities and consume alcoholic drink in accordance with the School's rules and regulations.

Name of Pupil [please print] _____ House _____

Name/Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____

☐ By ticking or signing and returning this form to us you are confirming that you wish to be bound by its contents

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR CHILD'S HOUSEMASTER/HOUSEMISTRESS BY THE BEGINNING OF TERM.