WINCHESTER COLLEGE

Alcohol Policy

September 2026

Owner Cullerne, John
Next review September 2027

This policy links with and should be read in conjunction with:

- PSHEE
- Search and Confiscation Policy
- General Behaviour and Discipline
- Suspensions, Exclusions and Terminations of Enrolment

Table of Contents

Summary of changes from previous version 2
Introduction 3
Our Rules 3
Consumption 3
Import into School or Purchase of Alcohol 3
Entering a Pub Illegally or Without Proper Permission 3
Additional Points about Sanctions 4

Summary of changes from previous version

No change from previous policy.

Alcohol Policy

Introduction

Pupils at Winchester learn about the physical and mental effects of alcohol, the risks of addiction and about legal, sensible and safe consumption of alcohol. This education takes place both in timetabled Hours (particularly Tutor Hour, Biology and Div), and through the PSHEE programme, where pupils hear from experts in the field. These talks also explore the way in which alcohol impacts decision-making and increases risky behaviours, the effect on the developing body and brain, and ways to reduce harm if alcohol is being consumed.

Our Rules

We expect the pupils to observe the School Rules, which are designed for their clear guidance and protection. The relevant School Rule states: *During term time, pupils may not purchase, possess or consume alcohol except in accordance with the law and in circumstances specifically approved by the Headmaster. Pupils in VI Book 1 may go to approved pubs or bars at approved times only in accordance with the law and with their Housemaster's specific permission, and on the understanding that (when the law allows them to drink alcohol) they must not drink to excess. Pupils must also have parental permission to consume alcohol. Pupils should always remain in the company of at least one other pupil. In these circumstances, pupils who visit a public house must report to the member of staff on duty upon their return to the House. Consumption of alcohol or entering a pub in contravention of this Rule is a very serious matter and can ultimately lead to permanent exclusion. Bringing alcohol into the school from home or elsewhere, the under-age purchasing of alcohol, and the illegal purchasing of it for another pupil, are also regarded as similarly serious offences. Pupils who are given any gifts of bottles of wine and the like for staff by their parents must hand these to their Housemasters for safekeeping.*

Consumption

Beer & Wine

First offence	Gating
Second offence	Second Master's Caution
Third offence	Major Warning
Fourth offence	Final Warning

Spirits

First offence	Major Warning
Second offence	Final Warning

Import into School or Purchase of Alcohol

First offence	Major Warning
Second offence	Final Warning

Entering a Pub Illegally or Without Proper Permission

First offence	Weekend Gating
Second offence	Second Master's Caution
Third offence	Major Warning
Fourth offence	Final Warning

Additional Points about Sanctions

Major Warning	Forbids any repetition of the offence or any other serious offence and remains in force for a year.
Final Warning	Follows a Major Warning and is irrevocable.

The Headmaster reserves the right to vary these sanctions.

If a pupil is inebriated, the school may require their parents to collect them and take them home. Alternatively, their parents will be charged for the Medical Centre's staff time.