ALCOHOL AT FUNCTIONS AND IN FUNDRAISING

School functions

Alcohol must not be consumed at any functions at which students are in attendance. Examples include welcome family barbeque, Year 6 graduation, family picnic, school fetes.

Alcohol must not be consumed or brought to school premises during school hours.

The principal must authorise in advance the consumption of alcohol at any adult only school function or other adult only function held on school premises. For example, trivia night, welcome cocktail party, annual P&F dinner.

There are detailed laws in NSW about the sale and supply of alcohol. Options for schools intending to hold adult only functions where alcohol will be served are:

- Function is strictly BYO
- Function is free and school pays the cost of limited service of alcohol eg. glass of wine at opening of art show
- If those attending the function pay for a ticket that includes alcohol then the school must either:
    - Use commercial caterers who are responsible for their own liquor licence and for ensuring staff have responsible service of alcohol certificates. The CSO recommends this option.
    - Apply to the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing for an exemption for a fundraising function held by a not for profit organisation. See the Office's website https://www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/documents/liquor/liquor-licences/FS_exemption_fundraising_notprofit.pdf. Schools can apply for up to six exemptions a year. The conditions of eligibility are strict. The application must be submitted no less than 14 days prior to the function and is limited to functions for less than 250 people (including catering staff) and of less than four hours duration. Every person selling or serving alcohol must hold a current responsible service of alcohol certificate.
    - Apply for a limited liquor licence for either a single or multiple functions. Every person selling or serving alcohol must hold a current responsible service of alcohol certificate.

Prizes and fundraising

Alcohol should not be offered as a prize for school fairs or raffles. It is also recommended that alcohol not be given as thank you gifts to speakers or volunteers.

The Australian National Council on Drugs wrote to all Australian school principals in 2011 asking that alcohol products not be used in any school fundraising activities. Both wine-tasting and the practice of putting a label with the school name and logo on wine and then asking the school community to encourage friends and family to order wine was noted as of particular concern especially if students were involved in disseminating advertising material.