



## Alcohol, Smoking & Drug Serious Matter Policy

Version: 1<sup>st</sup>

**Responsible To:** Head of College & CEO – John XXIII College

**Pertains To:** Residents (Accommodation Agreement Holder) – John XXIII College

**Supported By:** Deputy Head of College – John XXIII College

Staff – John XXIII College

Collegiate Team – John XXIII College

**Monitored By:** Head of College & CEO – John XXIII College

### Background

The College reminds all Residents of the overwhelming scientific evidence that smoking, excessive consumption of alcohol and the taking of illicit drugs is detrimental to one's health and can lead to their death or result in serious mental and physical health issues.

As a Resident of the ACT, all Residents are subject to the applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. These laws include the prohibition of the possession, supply and consumption of restricted or illicit drugs. In particular, the possession of any quantity of Cannabis, MDMA (Ecstasy) and Cocaine (or any other illicit drug) is illegal in the ACT.

NB.

It is also illegal to give prescription medication to any other Resident.

In 2015 ANU became a smoke free zone and the College supports this move.

The norms of the broader community relating to behaviour and adherence to the law are as applicable in College as elsewhere.

### Purpose

This policy provides clear procedures and limits of responsibility for Residents and staff in College wellbeing support roles when responding to incidents involving alcohol, smoking and drugs.

### Definitions

#### Serious Matter

This is any occurrence which is not considered to be a critical incident under the relevant ANU policy, but which has the potential to have a disruptive impact on the wellbeing of the Residential community. Serious matters include, but are not limited to:

- Excessive or binge drinking.
- Underage drinking.
- Smoking inside Residential buildings and around the College grounds, except the Designated Outside Smoking Area (DOSA), behind the chapel (western wall) at John XXIII College.
- Drug use, misuse of prescription medications and/or distribution of these substances within the College building or grounds.

#### Resident

A Resident of the College is financial member of the College community who is residing at the College. This is the person who signs the Residential contract and lives at the College; it is not based on the person who is paying the fees (the Account Holder).

#### Resident Association

The John XXIII Residents' Association (RA) is an incorporated student organisation within the College and run by elected student representatives. As such it is a separate legal identity to the College. The College has a Memorandum of Understanding with the RA which allows the RA to work alongside the College to provide social, cultural and sporting activities to the Residents of the College.



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### The Pastoral Team

The Pastoral Team at the College is the group of student leaders who have responsibility for monitoring the wellbeing of the Residents. This team consists of the Dean of Residents: Student Life & Academics (Dean) and the Senior Residents (SRs). This team is led and supervised by the Deputy Head of College (DHOC).

### Responsible Service of Alcohol

The Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) are guidelines laid down by each State and Territory Government for the selling and supply of alcohol, to prevent intoxication, drunk driving and underage drinking.

### **Principles**

1. The College strives to provide a supportive, caring environment for the Residents, staff and visitors.
2. The College should always be drug free and all Residents are entitled to feel safe.
3. The care and well-being of its Residents is a primary concern of the College.
4. Justice and Fairness are key values that guide the College's dealings with its Residents.

### **Policy Statement**

1. The excessive consumption of alcohol or binge drinking, underage drinking, enticing others to participate in inappropriate drinking and the taking of illicit drugs are seen as serious matters and the College takes a zero tolerance to these matters.
2. Smoking is banned in all areas of the College and University, except in designated outside smoking areas (DOSAs).
3. The level of response to any incident involving smoking, excessive alcohol consumption or using or supplying drugs will be dependent on the type and severity of the incident.
4. The College will be responsive to the needs of Residents with alcohol, smoking and drug related problems through appropriate support and referral mechanisms.
5. The College operates within the ANU and supports and cooperates with the ANU in the area of its smoking guidelines.

By accepting a John XXIII College Accommodation Agreement, Resident accepts and agrees to abide by all of the terms and conditions of John XXIII College's Policies and Procedures. Residents should contact the College for further clarification if required.