



# Ackworth School

## Alcohol and Tobacco Policy

Ackworth School has an extensive Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE) programme which includes focus on the potential risks from excessive consumption of alcohol and risks of smoking. This concentrates on teaching the importance of young people making healthy, informed choices. The programme involves students of all ages and continues throughout their time at the school. It extends across the curriculum, involving PSHE and Science lessons. We also have Morning Meetings which may cover the topic, and from time to time make use of travelling workshops and road shows to cover the serious risks from abuse of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances.

Our School Nurse and School Doctor 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 House Staff, Tutors, Senior Year Tutors and the Deputy Head (Pastoral). They can also refer themselves to the Medical Staff and to the School Counsellor for individual guidance, without fearing sanctions or adverse report. The School is very conscious of the importance of working together in order to promote the wellbeing of all the students in its care.

Ackworth students are not permitted to bring alcohol or tobacco onto the School campus. They must not consume alcohol or smoke tobacco on the journey to or from School. This also applies to all school trips and visits, both in this country and overseas, whether or not pupils are wearing school uniform at the time.

Ackworth is a public place; smoking is therefore illegal inside School buildings for everyone, including staff and visitors. We extend this to the use of e-cigarettes. We have designated the whole campus as a place where there should be no smoking. The exception to this is for resident staff in private residences and any designated staff smoking area.

During term time, Ackworth does not permit alcohol on the School premises at any time. No alcohol will be offered or consumed at formal events, including plays and concerts. Private staff residences are excluded from this rule.

Pupils who breach the guidelines on alcohol or tobacco can expect to be sanctioned. Such sanctions may include gating or suspension, and, where appropriate, parents or guardians will be invited to the School in order to discuss the matter. A pupil may be asked to meet with the School Sister for guidance on the issues surrounding alcohol or tobacco, especially where there is concern about a pupil's potential or actual addiction.