



# RIVERMOUNT COLLEGE

*Realising the Potential Within*

## 5.22.01 GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING 'OUT OF SCHOOL' FUNCTIONS (PARTIES)

### PURPOSE OF THESE GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are provided to parents to assist them when parties and social events are planned.

### GUIDELINES

Out of a concern for the secure ongoing development of students towards adulthood, the following guidelines are provided to parents to assist them when social events are planned. These suggestions have been devised in the belief that young people need to be educated gradually and positively in the use of their freedom.

It is important that parents get to know their children's friends, and where possible their parents. Co-operation between families makes a big difference. An equally valuable consequence is increased trust in your children.

It is recognised that Rivermount College has no authority to direct parents as to what to do in their own homes unless a party has some official College status, such as a team or end of season gathering. However, it is regrettable and undermining if parents adopt standards in their own homes much less demanding than those of the College.

The following guidelines reflect concerns of Rivermount College staff and parents –

#### 1. RESPONSIBILITIES OF HOSTS AT PARTIES

- At private parties, casual and group invitations should be avoided. Uninvited guests or "gate crashers" should be firmly refused admittance.

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- Responsible male and female adults should be present throughout the evening in the role of host and hostess.
- In term time, parties should not be held on weeknights. Ideally parties should finish before midnight.
- It is unwise to serve alcohol at young people's parties. Parents must make responsible judgements, taking into account the age of the guests, the size of the group and knowledge of their child's friends.
- There should be no alcohol at all if the party has some official or semi-official College status.
- Smoking (including vaping) should be forbidden – the hazards to health are well known.
- Parties can often lead to situations where illegal drugs can be illicitly available. Particular care must be taken to prevent this possibility.
- Stand firm about expected standards.
- Young people should be discouraged from driving themselves to and from parties.

## 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS OF GUESTS AT PARTIES

- It is wise to telephone and check party details with host/hostess.
- Transport arrangements should be checked and organised for the appropriate times.
- It is expected that a parent is at home for the duration of the party in a supervisory role.
- Talk to your child about coping with party pressure and problems and about standards of courtesy and expectations.

## 3. PARENTS

Parents are asked to recognise:

- That children must be guided in their development towards adulthood.
- That the College needs to work with parents and students for the good of the student.

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