



SAINT KENTIGERN COLLEGE

7 June 2012

Dear Parents and Caregivers

THE SAINT KENTIGERN COLLEGE BALL

On Tuesday I phoned all parents hosting pre-Balls. We are heartened by the positive feedback from so many of you in response to these phone calls. In particular, we were pleased to hear from some of the families who are hosting pre-Balls who, in consultation with their intended guests, are ensuring that their pre-Ball functions are alcohol-free. This is the best outcome we could hope for. If any parents are hosting functions after the Ball we would expect it to be for a small group only and well supervised.

We will be speaking to the students attending the Ball to reiterate our expectations about behaviour on Saturday night and the possible consequences of inappropriate behaviour. The majority of our students are mature, fun-loving individuals who rise to the occasion and show exemplary behaviour at our College Balls. We feel, however, that we should take every measure available to us to ensure the evening is incident-free. The welfare of our students - your children - is of our utmost concern.

As arranged last year, there will be a drug detector dog at the College Ball on Saturday night. The students attending from our College have been informed. If attending with a partner from another school, it is their responsibility to let their partner know.

This action is intended as a deterrent to any possible inappropriate behaviour. We are saddened that we feel the need to have these measures. Members of the Trust Board are in support of this.

The following information will be given to the students:

Drug Detection Agency

We have engaged the services of a professional drug detection agency. This company has family ties to the College and understands our concerns.

- On Saturday night, a professional company will provide a proactive deterrent to the possession and misuse of drugs and alcohol, with the overriding emphasis being the safety of our students and their guests.
- The company will maintain a highly visible presence with their sign-written vehicle positioned so guests are aware upon arrival that a drug dog is present.
- There will be a Drug Detector Dog with a Handler and an Investigator and the venue's eight Security personnel, along with Senior College staff on duty all night.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN EDUCATION

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- The Drug Dog Handler will be wearing high visibility clothing to maintain a highly visible presence.
- The Drug Detector Dog and Handler will carry out sweeps of the environs, car parks, cars and general area as guests arrive at the Ball.
- A professional Investigator will be partnered with the Drug Dog Handler, along with a Senior member of staff from the College.

Further Monitoring of Guests

During the course of the evening, a plain clothes Investigator, who is a Police-trained drug expert, will remain inside the venue monitoring the actions of guests. This action is intended as a deterrent and to detect intoxication and/or drug and alcohol use.

Time Out Room

- There will be a 'time out' room for those who are suspected of being intoxicated or in possession of alcohol/drugs. This will be manned by both medical staff and Senior staff members from the College. A breathalyser will be used if deemed necessary.
- Uniformed security staff will also be available as support if required.
- Anyone found to be intoxicated, in possession of alcohol and/or drugs, or misusing legal or quasi-legal substances will be immediately taken to the 'time out' room for assessment and management by the College staff and medical staff present.
- The professional Investigator will record any relevant conversation with that person and assist with the location of any drugs and/or alcohol on that person.
- The professional Investigator will take possession of and deal with any controlled drugs as appropriate.
- Parents will be called to collect their child.

Our intention is to ensure a safe and enjoyable occasion for all those attending. We believe that we have done all we can and now, once again, look forward to enjoying the excitement of our students and their families as they prepare for an evening of glamour, fine dining, dancing and fun.

Kind regards



Steve Cole
HEAD OF COLLEGE

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