



Fact Sheet: Use of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs

The Diocese has high expectations of Employees, Volunteers, contractors, Clergy and Religious Appointees in relation to the provision of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs to, and the use of those substances around Children and/or Adults at Risk.

All Employees, Volunteers, contractors, Clergy and Religious Appointees at Parishes and Agencies must follow these guidelines when it comes to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Alcohol

- Holy Communion under the form (appearance) of wine **is only** to be provided to a Child by a member of clergy or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion with the authorisation of, or in the presence of, the Child's parent or guardian within a Parish environment.
- Alcohol **is not** to be provided or supplied to a Child at any other time.
- Alcohol is only to be provided to an Adult at Risk with their clear consent.
- No person who is supervising Children or involved in any activity with Children should consume or be under the influence of alcohol.
- No person who is involved in an activity with Adults at Risk should be affected by alcohol to the extent that it impairs their judgment, actions, and/or choices.

Tobacco

- Tobacco is not to be provided or supplied to a Child under any circumstances.
- Tobacco is only to be provided to an Adult at Risk with their clear consent.
- No person who is supervising Children or involved in any activity with Children should smoke tobacco.

Illicit drugs

- Illicit drugs are not to be provided or supplied to a Child and/or Adult at Risk under any circumstances.
- No person who is supervising Children and/or Adults at Risk or involved in any activity with Children and/or Adults at Risk should consume or be under the influence of illicit drugs.

Medication

- Medication should not be given to any Child and/or Adult at Risk without written instructions from a parent/guardian/carer of the Child or Adult at Risk, at the direction of the Adult at Risk themselves or, unless it is administered by a doctor or paramedic in an emergency situation.
- Employees, Volunteers, contractors, Clergy and Religious Appointees should be aware that some prescription medication may adversely affect their capacity to supervise and manage interactions with Children and/or Adults at Risk effectively and safely.