

# Aberystwyth University Student Drugs including Alcohol Policy

Alcohol & Substance Misuse Strategy Group

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## Aberystwyth University Student Drugs including Alcohol Policy

The Aberystwyth University Alcohol and Drug Misuse Strategy Group and Students' Union have jointly produced this policy to set out, clearly and concisely, the expectations and responsibilities for all – staff and students, in relation to student alcohol and substance misuse issues.

***Aberystwyth University does not endorse the use of drugs including alcohol, but we want our students and staff to be safe. We operate a policy of harm reduction that prioritises the welfare and wellbeing of our community.***

This policy relates to the use of alcohol and other drugs that are controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, and the unauthorised use and possession of prescription medicines regulated by the Medicines Act 1968, by students. Staff employed by and working for Aberystwyth University should refer to HR Policy: [Drugs and Alcohol Policy](#)

### 1. Introduction

Aberystwyth University and the Student Union are committed to providing a safe and positive working, learning and living environment for our students, and to promote the health, safety and wellbeing of our students. We recognise that the misuse of drugs including alcohol may cause issues to an individual's health, academic performance, relationships, and behaviour that may possibly lead to criminality. Therefore, the focus of this policy is to highlight the University's position in relation to alcohol and substance misuse issues. The policy also lays out the University's code of student conduct in relation to alcohol and substance misuse and University business, with the aim to provide a consistent and sensitive approach in offering advice and support.

Aberystwyth University acknowledges that the use of drugs including alcohol is a common feature of the lives of young people in general and students in particular. Young people are likely to find themselves in environments and situations where they might come into contact with drugs including alcohol and for many people university might be the first time they come into contact with illegal drugs<sup>1</sup>.

Aberystwyth University recognises that the use of drugs including alcohol exists on a non-static spectrum from non-problematic and recreational to problematic and dependent; noting that problematic impacts of substance use can arise long before and apart from dependency. Aberystwyth University understands that the use of drugs including alcohol can pose serious risks to individuals and communities which can be exacerbated by

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<sup>1</sup> Moyle, L., & R. Coombes (2018). Student transitions into drug supply: exploring the university as a 'risk environment'. *Journal of Youth Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/13676261.2018.1529863

inadequate policy and practice responses. Notable harms can include short and long term impact on individual physical and mental health, finances, relationships, educational attainment and career and life chances as well as local, national, and global impact.

Aberystwyth University aims to respond to the reality of the use of drugs including alcohol, by acknowledging that those affected by substance misuse can pose certain risks to the University community. Therefore, in adopting a policy of harm reduction, it addresses such risks in order to protect students, staff, visitors and the wider community. Harm reduction is a variety of policy and practice interventions aimed at reducing negative outcomes of the use of drugs including alcohol to users, their communities and wider society. It is supported by the WHO, UNODC and EMCDDA<sup>2</sup>. The primary focus of harm reduction is the safety and wellbeing of the person and those around them rather than on their use of drugs including alcohol.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other University policies as appropriate.

## 2. Aberystwyth University's legal duty as an institution

Alcohol use by adults is not illegal and its consumption subject to the Licensing Act 1964 is permitted on the University premises.

Under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971<sup>3</sup>, it is a criminal offence for Aberystwyth University to knowingly permit the use, production or supply of any controlled drugs on its premises. Under the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016<sup>4</sup> it is an offence for Aberystwyth University to knowingly permit the production, supply, import or export of any substance if it is likely to be used for its psychoactive effects and regardless of its potential for harm. The only exemptions from the Act are nicotine, alcohol, caffeine, medicinal products and those already controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Aberystwyth University must operate in the context of national legislation and would be committing a criminal offence were it to knowingly permit the use, production or supply of any controlled drugs on its premises. Therefore the University cannot allow the possession, use or supply of controlled drugs or psychoactive substances on its premises.

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<sup>2</sup> United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. *Reducing the Adverse Health and Social Consequences on Drug Abuse: A Comprehensive Approach*. UNODC (2017). [online] available at:

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/reducing-the-harm-of-drugs.html>

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction. Annual Report to the European Monitoring. EMCDDA (2019).

<sup>3</sup> Legislation.gov.uk. Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1971/38/contents> [Accessed 10 June 2020]

<sup>4</sup> Legislation.gov.uk. Psychoactive Substances Act 2016. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2016/2/contents/enacted> [Accessed 10 June 2020]

Aberystwyth University is required by the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974<sup>5</sup>, to ensure as far as is reasonable, the health and safety of its employees, students and others at work.

The smoking ban in Wales came into force on 2 April 2007 as a consequence of the Health Act 2006<sup>6</sup>. Smoking is prohibited in all University buildings, and all University accommodation and halls of residence, including study bedrooms and all common areas and communal rooms, including lounges, kitchens and bathrooms<sup>7</sup>.

### 3. Student awareness of the legal and regulatory context

Criminal convictions impact on life chances. Any student who has involvement with controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances should familiarise themselves with the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 and Crown Prosecution Service Legal Guidance<sup>8</sup>. Students should be particularly aware that under s4 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, any involvement in facilitating the supply of a controlled drug to another person, even if it is only offered and not supplied, and even if no personal profit is made, is seen as a supply rather than a possession offence.

Students living in Aberystwyth University managed accommodation should familiarise themselves with the terms and conditions set out in the current residents' handbook, as they may be putting their accommodation at risk [[current handbook 2019-20 page 31](#), appendix 4 prohibited items].

Students in privately rented accommodation should be aware that their landlords must similarly operate in the context of national legislation, and under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 would be committing a criminal offence were they to knowingly permit the use, production or supply of controlled drugs on their premises.

### 4. Aberystwyth University's approach to harm reduction

Aberystwyth University's approach to harm reduction hinges on the principles of Responsibility and Respect, Information and Support.

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<sup>5</sup> Legislation.gov.uk. Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/37/contents> [Accessed 12 June 2020]

<sup>6</sup> Legislation.gov.uk. Health Act 2006. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/28/contents> [Accessed 15 June 2020]

<sup>7</sup> Aberystwyth University, Health, Safety and Environment Committee, Smoking Policy, 2018:

<https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/media/departmental/healthsafetyenvironment/documentmanagementsystem/policiesandprocedures/P008-Smoking-Policy.pdf> [Accessed 15 June 2020]

<sup>8</sup> CPS Legal Guidance. Drug Offences. <https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/drug-offences> [Accessed 10 June 2020].

**Responsibility and Respect** – The University recognises that for many people substance use is not a social or cultural norm and can be experienced as intimidating, alienating and disruptive. Additionally people who have previously struggled with problematic use may wish to avoid exposure to drugs including alcohol for their own safety. Aberystwyth University is committed to provide a safe and inclusive environment that fosters respect for difference and consideration of others. The University asks those in our community to be aware of how behaviour may impact on and be experienced by others. The University also asks those in our community to consider the impact of peer pressure on others, how individuals contribute to that and aim for positive impact on others. Aberystwyth University is a place of education – antisocial behaviour that negatively impacts on others’ wellbeing and ability to learn will not be tolerated.

**Information** – In order to maintain a duty of care, Aberystwyth University aims to empower students to use evidence-based information in order to promote informed, responsible decision-making. The University works to support the development of self-confidence and assertiveness skills, so that individuals are resilient to peer and other pressures. The University is committed to provide education and advice around the use of drugs including alcohol. Information may be shared within Aberystwyth University in order to signpost to appropriate support. Students can confidentially report risks to the Aberystwyth University community 24 hours a day 365 days a year by contacting Security on 01970 622649 or email: [security@aber.ac.uk](mailto:security@aber.ac.uk) Communicating local and current risks is a method of harm reduction and information that could benefit others will be valued and shared as appropriate.

**Support** – If any student wants or needs support to address any part of their use of substances, Aberystwyth University commits to providing help and support or signposting to the most appropriate support. The Student Wellbeing Service can help at [studentwellbeing@aber.ac.uk](mailto:studentwellbeing@aber.ac.uk) or telephone: 01970 621761/2087. Support will be person-centred and compassionate, and kept confidential unless there is a perceived immediate and serious threat to the individual’s health and safety, or to others; or where the behaviour requires referral to the Student Rules and Regulations and Student Conduct processes. Information may be shared with Aberystwyth University in order to signpost to appropriate support and will not be shared outside the University unless the student consents to this or there are serious concerns about the risk of significant harm. Where a student has caring responsibilities for children or vulnerable adults, and the nature of their substance use presents a risk to those they care for, information may need to be shared externally under the [Safeguarding Policy](#).

## Health and safety risks

Aberystwyth University strongly encourages everyone in its community to take individual responsibility to stay safe and take action to maintain other people's safety when necessary. This maybe by looking after one another by being 'Active Bystanders', i.e., safely challenging or intervening when witnessing unacceptable or dangerous behaviours. The ability to recognise when someone is in danger and to intervene safely or call for professional help (e.g., dialling 999) is an essential skill. Excessive use of drugs including alcohol can impair judgement and mental capacity, reduce inhibition and increase vulnerability to abuse, accidents and misadventure, as well as presenting serious risks to short and long term health.

## Alcohol and other drug use and consent

S74 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003<sup>9</sup>, "Consent" - states that a person consents to a sexual act only if they agree by choice, and have the freedom and capacity to make that choice. If a person's capacity to consent to sex is limited by drugs including alcohol, then they cannot give consent. Impaired judgement because of consumption of substances is not a valid defence against sexual offences. Aberystwyth University and the Students' Union will not tolerate sexual violence.

'Spiking' (surreptitiously contaminating food or drink with any psychoactive substance, including alcohol, and including administering increased amounts of known substances)<sup>10</sup> is illegal and very dangerous regardless of the intention and whether or not an attack or assault is carried out. Aberystwyth University would take any instances of spiking extremely seriously and would investigate and take further action via the University Student Conduct process.

## 5. Drugs including Alcohol Policy statement

Aberystwyth University is dedicated to ensuring that a safe and supportive environment is maintained, so that students, staff and visitors can have a positive experience whilst on campus. Aberystwyth University will therefore:

- Encourage and support mutual respect within the whole of the University community.
- Work with staff and students to create an understanding of acceptable behaviour and will approve the responsible use of disciplinary action where needed.
- Assist students to make informed decisions about substance use.

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<sup>9</sup> Legislation.gov.uk. Sexual Offences Act 2003, "Consent".  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/section/74> [Accessed 12 June 2020]

<sup>10</sup> NHS.uk Drink spiking and date rape drugs 2018. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/drink-spiking-and-date-rape-drugs/> [Accessed 12 June 2020]

- Promote a community that is supportive, and which recognises and respects different attitudes, cultures and religions towards substance use.
- Recognise the link between responsible behaviour and an enjoyable learning experience, and seek to promote a social environment from which all may benefit.
- Take very seriously, its legal responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of its students, staff and visitors, and aim to provide a safe, healthy and high quality experience.
- Recognise that all staff needs to be alert to indicators of substance misuse and to take appropriate action when necessary.
- Ensure that students can have confidential access to appropriate support and advice as appropriate via Student Support and Careers Services and/or Students' Union.
- Responsibly support and advise the management of commercial services at locations where alcohol is available for sale and/or consumption on site.

### 5.1 Who is covered by this policy?

This policy applies to all students enrolled at Aberystwyth University whilst:

- On University premises (campus, halls of residence etc.)
- Elsewhere on University business.
- Elsewhere during study activities.
- Representing the University at various sporting/academic events etc. (on campus or elsewhere).
- On premises managed on behalf of the University by a third party.
- Using University or Students' Union vehicles.
- Participating in University and/or Students' Union events or activities at University and their affiliated groups.

Students are reminded that whilst registered at Aberystwyth University they form part of the public image of the University; therefore, they represent the University at all times. Students must not bring the University into disrepute at any time, especially so when engaged in substance fuelled activities outside of the main campus and other University/SU managed activities and events as described above. Failure to do so may result in the instigation of disciplinary procedures.

## 6. Aims of the policy

- To provide definitions and information in relation to substance issues.
- To promote the safe and responsible use of substances.
- To outline the Code of Student Conduct in relation to substance misuse and University business.



- To outline the support options available in relation to the misuse of substances.

## 7. Definitions

In relation to this Policy, the key terminology associated with substance issues is defined below, so that a consistent understanding of the subject is ensured.

Substance misuse is the harmful use of substances (such as drugs and alcohol) for non-medical purposes. The term “**substance misuse**” often refers to illegal drugs. However, legal substances can also be misused, such as alcohol, prescription medications, caffeine, nicotine and volatile substances (e.g., petrol, glue, paint).

- **Substance Misuse** – drinking alcohol, taking drugs or a substance, either intermittently or continuously, such that it adversely interferes with an individual’s health, performance or conduct, or affects the safety of themselves and/or others.
- **Substances** – includes prescription medicines whereby these prescription medicines have not been prescribed for the person possessing or using them and/or such prescription medicines are not taken in accordance with a physician’s direction. This includes any substance (other than alcohol) that produces physical, mental, emotional or behavioural changes in the user.
- **Controlled Drug** – includes all chemical substances or drugs listed in any controlled drugs Acts or Regulations applicable under the law.

### What do we mean by illegal drugs?

Information on controlled drugs under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, their classifications and potential penalties for breaching the law can be found on the Home Office [website](#). The table below provides the information as of May 2012.

## Types of drugs

The maximum penalties for drug possession, supply (selling, dealing or sharing) and production depend on what type or 'class' the drug is.

Class	Drug	Possession	Supply and production
A	Crack cocaine, cocaine, ecstasy (MDMA), heroin, LSD, magic mushrooms, methadone, methamphetamine (crystal meth)	Up to 7 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both	Up to life in prison, an unlimited fine or both
B	Amphetamines, barbiturates, cannabis, codeine, ketamine, methylphenidate (Ritalin), synthetic cannabinoids, synthetic cathinones (for example mephedrone, methoxetamine)	Up to 5 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both	Up to 14 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both
C	Anabolic steroids, benzodiazepines (diazepam), gamma hydroxybutyrate (GHB), gamma-butyrolactone (GBL), piperazines (BZP), khat	Up to 2 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both (except anabolic steroids - it's not an offence to possess them for personal use)	Up to 14 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both
Temporary class drugs*	Some methylphenidate substances (ethylphenidate, 3,4-dichloromethylphenidate (3,4-DCMP), methylnaphthidate (HDMP-28), isopropylphenidate (IPP or IPPD), 4-methylmethylphenidate, ethylnaphthidate, propylphenidate) and their simple derivatives	None, but police can take away a suspected temporary class drug	Up to 14 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both

\*The government can ban new drugs for 1 year under a 'temporary banning order' while they decide how the drugs should be classified.

The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, to restrict the use of drugs which cause harm to the individual or others, relates to the:

- Possession
- Supply
- Possession with intent to supply
- Controlled drugs on premises

of Class A, B, and C drugs and any temporary class drugs.

### Psychoactive substances penalties

Psychoactive substances include things like nitrous oxide ('laughing gas').

You can get a fine or prison sentence if you:

- Carry a psychoactive substance and you intend to supply it
- Make a psychoactive substance
- Sell, deal or share a psychoactive substance (also called supplying them)

Psychoactive substances	Possession	Supply and production
Things that cause hallucinations, drowsiness or changes in alertness, perception of time and space, mood or empathy with others	None, unless you're in prison	Up to 7 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both
Food, alcohol, nicotine, caffeine, medicine and the types of drugs listed above do not count as psychoactive substances.		

Additionally, the key terminology associated with alcohol-related substance misuse issues are defined below:

### *Alcohol misuse*

Essentially, alcohol misuse refers to drinking excessively; more than the UK Government's recommended weekly guidelines for alcohol consumption (currently no more than 14 units, for both men and women, on a regular basis<sup>11</sup>)

Alcohol misuse can cause short and long-term harm and dependent on the severity of alcohol misuse, health problems can develop as well as being the cause of other related problems. For students, these can include:

- Breach of accommodation license.
- Fire safety (cooking in halls when under the influence).
- Violence, aggression, fights, and antisocial behaviour.
- Sexual misconduct/sexual assault.
- Police cautions; criminal convictions; visa travel issues.
- Academic problems.
- Health and Safety concerns.
- Causing minor or significant damage to property (University or otherwise).
- Fines/recovery of costs.
- Social issues.

<sup>11</sup> UK Government Department of Health, *UK Chief Medical Officers' Low Risk Drinking Guidelines* (2016). [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/545937/UK\\_CMOs\\_report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545937/UK_CMOs_report.pdf) [Accessed 10th June 2020].

## *Alcohol dependence*

Alcohol dependence refers to a situation where a person has lost control over their drinking and has developed dependence for alcohol. In determining dependency, a person would begin to suffer side effects should they try to stop or reduce their levels of drinking.

For example, in situations of alcohol dependence, a person generally craves alcohol and can tolerate increased levels, whilst also being aware of the negative impact it can have on their lives in terms of health, education and socialisation.

## *Binge drinking*

The term binge drinking refers to occasions where a significant amount of alcohol is consumed in a short period, over a few hours for example, which leads to intoxication and drunkenness.

Binge drinking is viewed as harmful behaviour as it can have far-reaching consequences. An intoxicated person with reduced inhibitions may be more likely to engage in destructive behaviours; for example, students might:

- Experience high-expressed emotions/low self-worth/self-harm behaviours/suicidal ideation
- Become argumentative
- Start fights
- Be the subject/perpetrator of criminality
- Have unprotected sex

## *Pre-loading (pre-drinking/prinking)*

Pre-loading is the practice of consuming alcohol at home before going out to bars and clubs. More than half of students who consume alcohol have been found to pre-load. When people do pre-load, they are generally four times more likely to consume over 20 units on a night out (to include pre-loading and bar/club drinking). This level of consumption is strongly associated with increased health risks and destructive behaviours, as one study found that those who had 'pre-loaded'<sup>12</sup> were two-and-a-half times more likely to be involved in violence than other drinkers<sup>13</sup>.

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<sup>12</sup> Barton, A., and Husk, K. (2012). Controlling pre-loaders: alcohol related violence in an English night time economy. *Drugs and Alcohol Today*, 12(2). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1108/17459261211235119>

<sup>13</sup> Hughes, K., Anderson, Z., Morleo, M., and Bellis, M.A. (2008). Alcohol, nightlife and violence: the relative contributions of drinking before and during nights out to negative health and criminal justice outcomes. *Addiction*, 103(1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1360-0443.2007.02030.x>

## Safe and responsible drinking

Enjoyment and responsible drinking is advocated UK wide. The volume of alcohol in drinks is measured in units and the current guidelines for alcohol consumption are:

- 14 units per week for both women and men
- It is best to spread this evenly over 3 days or more.

It is also recommended that individuals should have at least two alcohol-free days each week.

The unit measurements for popular alcoholic drinks are listed below:

Wine 12% - 125ml	1.5	Beer 5% - bottle 330ml	1.7
Wine 12% - 175ml	2.1	Cider 5.5% - can 500ml	2.7
Wine 12% - 250ml	3.0	Alcopop 5.5% - 275ml	1.5
Spirits 40% - 25ml	1.0	Beer lower strength 3.6% - pint	2.0

(source: Alcohol Change UK [unit calculator](#))

## 8. Code of Student Conduct

- 8.1 Students must comply with the University's Rules and Regulations.
- 8.2 No-one should undertake University related business or represent the University while unfit through substance use.
- 8.3 Staff reserve the right to terminate contact with a student who presents as being under the influence of substances (see also point 8).
- 8.4 Students must comply with the law at all times. Involvement in situations such as verbal or physical violence, aggressive behaviour, sexual violence etc., may result in criminal prosecution. (see also points 7.5, 7.8 and 7.9).
- 8.5 Being under the influence of substances during any criminal activity (as per 7.4) will not be considered as mitigation or an excuse. (see also points 7.8 and 7.9).
- 8.6 Academic activities must not be disrupted due to substance misuse.
- 8.7 Pressure must not be applied to others to use substances. This includes disrespectful or exclusive behaviour, participation in drinking games and the spiking of drinks with any/extra alcohol/substance.
- 8.8 Any breaches of the above may result in University disciplinary procedures.
- 8.9 Intoxication will not be accepted as special circumstances at any time, especially so in the case of students breaching University Rules and Regulations.

8.10 Students with substance dependency issues will be strongly encouraged to engage with sources of help and support but they will not be exempt from disciplinary procedures resulting from any breach of University Rules and Regulations.

8.11 Students are strongly advised not to compromise their own safety by working with or being reliant upon other students who are under the influence of substances.

## 9. Support options

If concerns are identified regarding a student in relation to substance misuse, support options are available. Students should be encouraged to access support voluntarily; this is so that they are empowered to take control of their own health and wellbeing.

### *University support*

University support is available from a number of sources:

- Student Support and Careers Services
  - [Student Wellbeing Services](#)
- Students' Union
  - [Advice on Health and Wellbeing](#)

The support offered will be needs-led, confidential, non-judgemental, and may include external referrals to community/professional services as appropriate.

Should students refuse to seek help regarding their substance misuse, and where further risk is identified and/or where University business is disrupted, relevant staff should consider consulting the appropriate policy. Students may be subject to the Fitness to Attend policy, Disciplinary policy and/or others as appropriate.

Students should be advised that staff are strongly encouraged not to compromise their own safety by working with students who have or may have used substances, or who present as being under the influence of substances.

## 10. Alcohol at University events

The University, at various times during the year, may host events and social gatherings, which could include the provision of alcoholic drinks. As the University advocates responsible drinking, the following principles will apply:

- The provision of alcoholic drinks will be managed in a responsible way.

- Non-alcoholic drinks must also be provided.
- The emphasis of the event must not be focused on drunkenness.
- No pressure is put on any students to drink alcohol.
- Events organised by, or permitted by, the University on or off University premises are to be delivered in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003. The University holds up-to-date licences for the sale and consumption of alcohol in a number of venues across campus, managed by Hospitality Services. Temporary events held at locations other than those for whom licences are in place, can be organised compliantly by the application of a TENS (Temporary Events Notice), organised through the Conference Office.

## 11. Confidentiality and Data Protection

Please see

*Confidentiality Guidelines:* <https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/student-support/staff/confidentiality-disclosure/>

*Data Protection Policy:* <https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/information-governance/policies/dp/>

*Personal Information Storage:* <https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/information-governance/rm/>

For further information, please contact: [infogovernance@aber.ac.uk](mailto:infogovernance@aber.ac.uk)

## 12. Aberystwyth University's commitment to students

- Any student wishing to seek advice regarding any substance use would be advised to do so through the Student Wellbeing Service, their GP or DDAS substance misuse service.
- Alcohol pricing on University premises, will be set at a responsible level so as to encourage the consumption of non-alcoholic drinks.
- At locations and times when alcohol is available, free drinking water will be provided on request.
- Individual choices whether to drink alcohol or not will be respected.
- Initiation ceremonies, welcome events and other social meetings involving excessive alcohol consumption are prohibited.
- The University welcomes and encourages groups who wish to host events where the focus is not on excessive drunkenness.
- The University will support responsible drinking initiatives and campaigns as appropriate.

- The University will strive to ensure that facilities/events are accessible for those students who choose not to drink alcohol and will respond to demand for alcohol free events where possible.
- For students who apply for University accommodation, the University is currently working on the provision to include the option of designated alcohol-free accommodation in the application process.
- Substance use education and campaign work will form part of the University's commitment to student welfare, and will be run by the University Alcohol and Substance Misuse Strategy Group, and/or Student's Union, and/or Student Support Services, to encourage awareness of the impact substance use can have.
- Aberystwyth University will continue to work with partners, who are also represented on the University Alcohol and Substance Misuse Strategy Group, including Ceredigion County Council, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Dyfed Powys Police, and Dyfed Drugs and Alcohol Service (DDAS-Barod) in particular, to look at harm reduction and prevention in relation to substance use.
- The University will respond appropriately to any concerns or complaints relating to substance misuse, i.e., noise disturbances.

### 13. References

- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/alcohol-misuse/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/drug-addiction-getting-help/>

### Supporting Information

- [The Alcohol in Higher Education Toolkit](#) (2013), *Public Health Wales Publication*
- Winkler, J. (2019). *University of the West of England Student Drugs including Alcohol Policy*. Bristol: UWE



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Approved:	Student Experience Committee Academic Board ( <i>July 2020</i> )	Effective From:	
Other Stakeholders:			
Contact:	Dr Alison Mackiewicz, Chair, Alcohol and Substance Misuse Strategy Group, <a href="mailto:alm53@aber.ac.uk">alm53@aber.ac.uk</a> 01970 621919		