School Social Policy

Introduction

Adolescent students are caught in the world between childhood and the not yet attainable freedom of being an adult. It is not surprising therefore that this is a period of an increased desire for freedom, experimentation and social interaction. This places pressure on the family and School Community to provide opportunities for the development of social skills.

Kincoppal-Rose Bay wishes to provide suitable occasions for students to meet students from other schools socially, including boys. The social functions are conducted under School supervision with the pastoral staff receiving help from parents and sometimes older students in the organization of the events.

Part of the school's role is in the area of social development. The staff assist in the girls’

- Identification as women in the changing world
- Organisational and planning skills
- Ability to relate effectively with others
- Self discipline
- Self-esteem and self-acceptance
- Tolerance and acceptance of others
- Ability to be assertive in the face of peer pressure

Basic Principles of Kincoppal-Rose Bay

The school wishes to have functions that are:

- well-conceived, thoroughly planned, enjoyable and safe
- planned by the Pastoral Team under the leadership of the Year Co-ordinator and with the assistance of School Leaders. Parents are also encouraged to participate with function
- organisation
- appropriate to the level of maturity of the students
- organised with the involvement of the students to both plan the event and help set standards by way of the Pastoral Programme
- not discriminatory towards different groups of students and reflective of the ethos of the School

Social Events

Currently the School provides a broad range of opportunities and settings for social development:

- Leadership Afternoon Teas
- Debating/Mock Trial
- Choral and Orchestral activities
- Retreats
- Peer Tutoring and Peer Support
- Music Camp
- Sports Programme
• School Drama Productions
• Tournament of the Minds
• Art Exhibitions

Year Level Socials

In addition to the activities above, the School provides one major social event annually for each Year Group. These events are age appropriate. Such events could include BBQs, dances and dinners. Boys' Schools are invited to attend some of these functions. In Years 10 and 12 students can invite their own partners. Students who wish to attend without a partner are most welcome to do so. The attendance at these functions is optional, but the standards which are to apply are not optional. The following guidelines are to ensure School socials are well conducted and do not give rise to unsafe situations for students. It is a condition of attending social functions that students understand and agree to the following.

1. School socials should be safe and happy events which encourage students to maintain their high standards of personal integrity.
2. Prior to the event the following arrangements must be made:
   2.1 Clear arrangements for collecting students after the event.
   2.2 The names and addresses of guests invited by individual students must be known to the parents of the student inviting the guest and accessible to the teacher organising the dance in the event of a problem requiring contact with the guest's parents.
3. The dress code is to be appropriate for a school function in both style and cost. The following will be considered inappropriate:
   3.1 plunging necklines
   3.2 tops which expose large amounts of midriff
   3.3 skirts which are too short or have a split to the upper part of the thigh
   3.4 tight pants
   3.5 clothes made from see-through fabric without an opaque undergarment
   3.6 fancy dress, except where a particular theme is specified.
4. Once in the dance venue students and their guests must remain inside until the end of the event. Students leaving early will only do so if parents approve in writing prior to the event or over the telephone during the event should sickness or some other good reason require it.
5. School socials are communal events. Pairing off with a single guest and dancing and behaving exclusively with this guest is not in the spirit of the social event and is to be discouraged.
6. The display of physical closeness (through kissing, sitting on the laps or other inappropriate body contact) is not acceptable for School functions. Appropriate contact to welcome or farewell a familiar guest, such as a kiss on the cheek, is acceptable.
7. Intimate or provocative dancing is unacceptable.
8. Crowd “surfing” is not allowed.
9. The usual School rules regarding alcohol, drugs and smoking, and dangerous implements, apply for School functions.
Sanctions
Failure to adhere to the above rules will attract one or more of the following sanctions:

• parents will be contacted and asked to collect their daughter
• students may be excluded from further School social functions
• students will be interviewed by the Director of Students and the Principal
• the parents or the School of visitors involved in in-appropriate behaviour will be contacted.

Boarding School

The School recognises the need to provide additional opportunities for social interaction for our Boarders. The Boarding School provides dances and other social events for Boarders at all year levels. Occasionally the Boarding School accepts the invitation of other Schools to their social events, taking a year group supervised by Boarding School Mistresses. Very occasionally someday students may participate in these social occasions by arrangement.

Privately-arranged Social Functions

Guidelines for Parents and Students

1. Social events for a full year level are discouraged. Smaller private functions are preferred. The School strongly recommends that numbers be contained in respect to both the student invited from Kincoppal-Rose Bay and other Schools. Parental experience with larger functions has not always been positive for a range of reasons including:
   1.1 disturbance of the neighbourhood during and after the event
   1.2 dealing with gate-crashers and vandalism
2. Parents holding events that involve a significant number of students from one form at Kincoppal-Rose Bay are asked to liaise with the Director of Students. This is a courtesy as the School often has to deal with a certain group dynamic within the School as a result of such functions.
3. To limit the intrusion on the academic programme, students should not attend any social functions during the school week. It is desirable that significant events be held during vacations.
4. Parents holding a social function are asked to make information available to the parents of invitees on the following:
   4.1 the specific details for this event - venue and times
   4.2 the number of guests that have been invited
   4.3 the adult supervision that will be provided
   4.4 the procedures in place for dealing with gate-crashers
5. It is strongly recommended that students not be permitted to bring their own drinks to social functions and that guests not be permitted to leave early without notifying their parents.