



A COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER TIPS FOR TEEN PARTIES

Hosting and attending parties can be fun for everyone. Teenage gatherings provide important opportunities for our children to mix and gain experiences in social situations and teaches them how to be responsible guests and hosts.

Planning is the key to hosting a safe and enjoyable party: talk to your teenager to establish some strong ground rules. Appropriate adult supervision and firm restrictions of drugs, alcohol and uninvited guests are important considerations.

SHOULD I ALLOW ALCOHOL AT MY TEEN'S PARTY?

- It is not advisable to allow children under the age of 18 to drink alcohol. We now know that it is important to delay the introduction of alcohol to young people for as long as possible.
- As a parent you have certain responsibilities when holding a party for teenagers so saying "NO" is appropriate.
- You are responsible for providing information to parents of children who are attending your party.
- You must provide a safe environment for your guests.
- You have a responsibility to ensure the party is adequately supervised at all times.
- You should be aware of your "duty-of-care" There may be legal implications if you do not act responsibly when you host a party for teenagers.
- Be prepared to look after another person's child as you would wish your own child to be cared for in the same situation.

AN ALCOHOL FREE PARTY IS THE BEST OPTION

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF ALCOHOL IS BROUGHT TO MY TEEN'S PARTY?

- If a guest arrives with alcohol, confiscate it and call the parents to inform them and have them collect it.
- As a safeguard you can collect bags and coats at the entry point and store in a safe place until guests leave. This will reduce the chance of alcohol and drugs being present at the party.
- If a teenager arrives at the party under the influence of alcohol, call their parents to arrange collection and keep them safe until their lift home arrives. (Do not leave an unwell child alone. Call an ambulance 000 if you have any concerns.)

DISCLAIMER

These guidelines are not intended to reflect all strategies for dealing with the challenges of hosting parties with adolescents, but are designed to serve as a resource for parents, students and schools. The information contained herein is not intended to replace professional advice, whether medical, legal or other. Each individual situation is different. John XXIII College disclaims liability of any kind resulting from the use of these guidelines.