

Birmingham PHAB Camps

Alcohol, Smoking and Drugs Policy

Alcohol Policy on Children's (under 18) holidays:

For the wellbeing of all the children in our care Birmingham PHAB Camps operates a strict no alcohol policy for volunteers on all our children's (under 18) holidays.

Participants under 18 are never allowed to drink on a Birmingham PHAB Camps holiday, even if they do at home. Any child or volunteer found breaking the policy is likely to be asked to leave the holiday and, thereafter, the Board of Trustees will carefully consider his or her future involvement with Birmingham PHAB Camps.

Alcohol Policy on Adult (over 18) holidays:

On our adult holidays we allow our volunteers to drink for social purposes with the young adults if the request to drink alcohol recreationally comes from one or more of the young adult participants.

In such instances, the Leader will make clear to the volunteers that:

- No volunteer on an adult Birmingham PHAB Camps holiday will drink more than 2 units of alcohol per day. (2 units = 1 pint of beer, 2 small glasses of wine, 2 pub measures of spirit, or 1 alcopop.)

NB: It's therefore recommended that leaders suggest volunteers drink in half measures e.g., order two half pints over the course of an evening, rather than one pint, purely for practical purposes if the aim is support the young adult participant by drinking socially with them over a lunch time or evening period.

Smoking policy

Volunteers:

- must not smoke in sight of the children or young adults.
- must be courteous to other volunteers, our hosts and the general public by only smoking in designated areas, and disposing of all butt ends in an appropriate bin.
- must consider the timing of their cigarette breaks carefully, given that going for a smoke means other volunteers will need to cover.

Participants:

- aged under 18 cannot smoke on a Birmingham PHAB holiday, which needs to be made clear at the home visit and/or pre-camp correspondence if it's suspected the participant may smoke.
- aged 18 and over may smoke in designated areas if they wish to do so, as long as no support or encouragement for them to start smoking is allowed by either volunteers or other participants.

Recreational Drugs (other than alcohol and smoking)

The taking of any form of recreational drugs other than alcohol and smoking is forbidden by Birmingham PHAB Camps. Anybody found using or in possession of drugs will be removed from the holiday and may be reported to the police.

Last reviewed July 2015 after changes were agreed at the July Operational Committee meeting as minuted, and changes were made the handbooks accordingly.

(NB: if amended - please update in the volunteer handbook accordingly)