



SECTION 30

Student Resources

SECTION 30 OVERVIEW

Alcohol can not only damage the body and the brain, it can also result in you getting into trouble with the police. Section 30 (Policing and Crime Act 2009) gives the police the power to seize alcohol from young people under 18 who are drinking in public places (ie when you are outside). This could ultimately result in a criminal conviction.

SECTION 30 - A 3 TIERED APPROACH:

STAGE 1: A one-off instance of public drinking:

The first time you get stopped by the police, you will be given a Section 30 warning. A letter will also be sent home to your parents/carer, your details will be passed on to a young people's Alcohol Support Service, and in some cases, Children's Services may contact your home.

STAGE 2: A repeat instance of public drinking:

If you are caught twice with alcohol in a public place, the Youth Offending Team will become involved as well as the previous measures from your first time.

STAGE 3: Persistent drinking in public places:

Finally, if you are caught in possession of alcohol in a public place for a third time, you could end up with a fine and/or a criminal record. This means you might not be able to work in some countries abroad (e.g. Camp America or Australia) and you might have to declare it if you go for a job interview.