

Leavers 2014 - Tips for Parents

Before they go ...

Know your child's plans for Leavers

- If your child is celebrating in Dunsborough, Busselton or Rottnest ensure they take photo ID with them to purchase a 2014 Leavers Wristband.
- Encourage your child to celebrate during the official Leavers period only, which is Monday 24th - Thursday 27th November 2014. This is the safest time for them to celebrate. The weekend prior to Leavers has in the past attracted 'toolies' or troublemakers who cause problems for school leavers.
- Know the dates that your son or daughter will be away.
- Know how they will be getting to and from their destination, and how they intend to travel around once they arrive. Know where they are staying – obtain the name, address and contact details of the accommodation venue.
- Obtain a copy of the accommodation contract and be familiar with the terms and conditions of the contract. Discuss these with your son or daughter.
- Encourage your son or daughter to work out a budget for their holiday.
- Ask your son or daughter who they are travelling /staying with.
- Let your son or daughter know they can contact you at any time while they are away if they have a problem, or need to come home

Know your responsibilities ...

- Do not provide your children with alcohol to take to Leavers. Even if your child is 18, the vast majority of Leavers are under 18 and all Leavers activities are alcohol-free. Leavers is a great time for your children to celebrate completing high school and a lot of agencies and volunteers work very hard to ensure Leavers have a fun, safe experience without the need for alcohol consumption.
- Under the new Liquor Control Act juveniles are unable to possess alcohol in a public place. Opened or unopened alcohol will be confiscated by WA Police and juveniles fined \$200. Adults who purchase liquor for juveniles are a significant problem for Leavers and contribute to alcohol related harm, anti-social behaviour and offences such as sexual assault and violent crimes.
- Adults may also be breaking the law and can be fined a maximum of \$2000.
- Parents are reminded that research shows that young people who drink alcohol in an unsupervised manner consume alcohol at more harmful levels.
- History also shows juveniles will purchase additional alcohol, thus consuming much more alcohol than parents may be aware of.

Further information and tips for parents can be accessed on the SDERA website:
www.det.wa.edu.au/sdera

Respect the communities
you visit and the people
living in them

Party safely
and
care for your friends

Make your leavers
something to remember
not something to forget.

Drive
safely and
respect the
wellbeing of
yourself, your
passengers and
other road users