



From the Headmaster
B J Wignall, MA, FRSA, MCM

March 2017

Dear Parents,

Sixth Form Ball

It seems early to be looking towards the end of the year already, but it will soon be upon us. One of the main events that we can look forward to at the end of the year is the Sixth Form Summer Ball, and enclosed with this mailing are details and information on how to apply for tickets. Members of the Sixth Form have been working hard to raise funds towards the Ball which will centre on a marquee on the College terraces. I very much hope that you will be able to come along with your sons or daughters to support it.

As I am sure you appreciate, it is probably best I offer you some guidance regarding the Ball and the nature of the invitation. Invitations are extended to all sixth formers and their parents or guardians. Parents or guardians of sixth formers are also welcome to invite additional adult guests to join their party (for our purposes the definition of an adult is someone aged 25 or over).

All sixth formers and guests under the age of 25 must belong to an official adult party with a nominated individual prepared to accept full responsibility on the evening for their overall welfare. Given that such a responsibility is a genuine responsibility, we would not anticipate any one adult taking responsibility for more than four guests, other than family members, under the age of 25. It is expected that the responsibility of adults in such circumstances extends to that of *loco parentis*, and that in the unusual event of a pupil being taken ill, the responsible adult would take full charge of the situation and devote their time to their charge accordingly. The responsible adult is responsible for the monitoring and control of alcohol for the members of the party for whom he or she is responsible. Sixth formers not accompanied by parents or guardians may not invite guests, and may only attend if part of another party. Pupils below the age of Sixth Form are not permitted to attend the Sixth Form Ball, even if they are family members. Old Ellesmerians currently of Sixth Form age (i.e. contemporaries of pupils in the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth) are not permitted as guests without special agreement from me, unless – of course – they are brothers or sisters of pupils currently in the Upper Sixth or Lower Sixth.

I am sure you understand the need for giving some clear guidance at an early stage. The Summer Ball is always one of the social highlights of the Ellesmere College calendar, and I hope I can look forward to seeing you. It would be very helpful if you could indicate if you wish to come to the Ball as soon as possible.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

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