



Alcohol laws - Discussion point



Let's imagine you're under 18 but you have got hold of some alcohol and you and your mates have met up in the park to get drunk. The police turn up. What happens next?

- The police have the powers to take your alcohol and get rid of it. They may ask you to pour it down the drain. You won't get your money back.
- The police will also ask you for your name and address. Be aware that is also an offence to refuse to give these details.
- Often the police will take you home. If you are to be charged with an offence this will need to be done in the presence of your parent or guardian. They may arrange another time to come and speak to your parents or guardian.
- It will be kept on police records that the police have spoken to you about possessing and drinking alcohol. This information might be passed onto the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration and could be used in a Children's Panel Hearing.

Remember, criminal convictions can impact on the rest of your life, for example when applying for jobs or travelling abroad.