

2021 Safer Schoolies Queensland Presentation – Presenter Notes

This presentation is designed to reinforce key messages and encourage responsible choices around alcohol and other drugs, consent and sexualised behaviour, mental health and wellbeing, online privacy and other relevant issues to Year 12 school leavers, as they embark on Schoolies and their lives beyond as young adults.

Whilst some of the information in the presentation is delivered in the context of Schoolies on the Gold Coast, topics covered within this presentation reinforce important safety messages relevant to ALL school leavers, regardless of if, how or when they choose to celebrate the end of their schooling.

Topics covered within this presentation:

- Expectations (video – 5:15)
- Mental health and wellbeing (video – 3:49)
- Alcohol, drugs and your health (video – 3:31)
- Sexual health, consent (video – 4:01 and video – 2:49) and image sharing/abuse
- Alcohol, drugs and the law (video – 2:45)
- Social media – digital reputation and your public profile
- Accommodation – balcony safety, house rules, eviction, your rights and obligations.

Tips for presenters:

- The PowerPoint presentation combines static information slides, videos and interactive audience questions (please use a show of hands for each of the responses), to engage the students and keep them involved in the session.
- The second audience question will give you an indication of the percentage of your audience attending Schoolies on the Gold Coast. **If the percentage of Gold Coast attendees is LOW, feel free to skim over the Gold Coast specific operational based slides (slides 4 and 5),** and focus on the broader topics including health/safety and rights/responsibilities.
- All videos are embedded in the presentation, meaning the file size is quite large (2.77GB). You may find it useful to save the presentation onto the desktop of the device you will run the presentation from, rather than opening it from your internal drives or folders. The videos should run more smoothly if you do this.
- Approximate duration of presentation = 50 minutes + student questions (NB: includes 22min of video content).

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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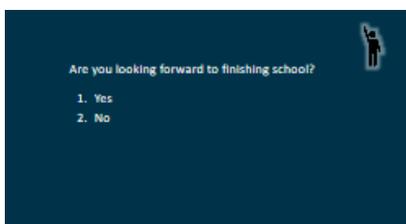
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Slide 1 – Introduction/holding slide

- (If required – introduce self)
- You are close to finishing school and undertaking celebrations of many types.
- The following presentation empowers you by providing information on your rights and responsibilities and knowledge to help keep you safe, whether that be during a Schoolies celebration or simply in your lives ahead as young adults (**NEXT SLIDE**).



Slide 2

AUDIENCE QUESTION – Are you looking forward to finishing school? (show of hands)

- Discuss variation amongst audience:
 - You can see there are different feelings amongst people in the group.
 - It's a big transition point in your life.
 - You might feel sad that it's over, others are happy it's ending.
 - Everyone is unique (**NEXT SLIDE**).



Slide 3

AUDIENCE QUESTION – How are you planning to celebrate your achievement when you graduate? (show of hands)

- Discuss variation amongst audience as each group raises their hands:
 - Schoolies on the Gold Coast: then the information in this presentation is very relevant to you.
 - Schoolies elsewhere in Australia: It will be extremely important to keep an eye on your holiday destination and whether gatherings will be permitted. Also monitor the latest health advice to see whether there are any impacts on your plans – eg: interstate travel restrictions.
 - Something completely different: many of you may undertake low key or smaller group celebrations that you might not really consider as 'Schoolies' for example camping with friends etc. All this information is very relevant to you.
 - I don't know yet: very understandable – waiting to see what the COVID-19 situation is like in Qld at the time you finish school is smart.
 - Not planning to celebrate at all: for those of you not planning to celebrate, it's important to acknowledge your achievement, take the time to reflect on what you have achieved and give yourself a pat on the back (**NEXT SLIDE**).

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Slide 4 – Schoolies on the Gold Coast

- For those of you that ARE planning to celebrate Schoolies on the Gold Coast, the Schoolies Hub is on the beach in Surfers Paradise and is alcohol and drug free.
- It's for legitimate Year 12 school leavers ONLY – a place for you to celebrate exclusively with your Year 12 peers.
- The featuring DJs across two stages, the Schoolies Hub runs from 7pm – midnight, every night.
- The ONLY way to access the Schoolies Hub is with a Safer Schoolies Wristband. Safer Schoolies wristbands are FREE for legitimate Year 12 school leavers.
- The ONLY way to get a wristband is to REGISTER for one on the Safer Schoolies website in advance: saferschoolies.qld.gov.au using your Year 12 school ID.
- Please note that your accommodation lanyard or wristband does not give you access to the Schoolies Hub.
- There are support services available to you inside the Hub and within the wider Surfers Paradise precinct (**NEXT SLIDE**).



Slide 5 – Support is available during Schoolies on the Gold Coast

- On the Gold Coast all support staff have a uniform and carry identification, offering support freely and without judgement.
- There is an army of support services available offering a range of services – whether you need:
 - a walk home, a friendly shoulder to cry on, a room visit, a condom or a glass of water, some pancakes cooked, you are drunk, have a cut foot, lost keys, phone is flat, lost mates, don't know where you are staying: there will always be someone to help you.
- If you are not visiting the GC, remember that wherever you are, there is always help available. Check out the services available in the local area, or never be afraid to reach out for support over the phone to some of the fantastic phone and text support services that are available.
- Whatever you are planning to do, remember that celebrations of ANY type come with expectations (**NEXT SLIDE - VIDEO**).

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(VIDEO HOLDING SLIDE: CLICK TO PLAY after you have read opening point)

Slide 6 – Expectations

(VIDEO – Expectations 5:15)

- **(BEFORE video):** You have been looking forward to this time for years... how will you feel? Will it turn out as you expected? The following video unpacks expectations around celebrations and the emotional highs and lows that come with finishing school.
- **(AFTER video):** Now that you are thinking about your expectations around Schoolies, it's important to consider how you will care for both your physical and mental wellbeing after school finishes or while you are at Schoolies (NEXT SLIDE - VIDEO).



(VIDEO HOLDING SLIDE: will autoplay)

Slide 7 – Mental and physical wellbeing

(VIDEO – Mental wellbeing 3:49)

- **(AFTER video):** Now let's recap on what you have just heard with some of the top tips in preparing well for finishing school (NEXT SLIDE).

TIPS TO BALANCE HIGHS AND LOWS

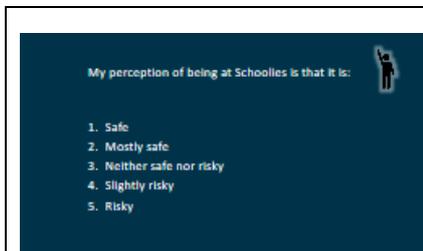
- + IT'S NATURAL TO FEEL HIGHS AND LOWS
- + LISTEN TO YOUR FRIENDS
- + TALK ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON
- + STAY IN TOUCH WITH FAMILY
- + IF YOU NEED TO, SEEK HELP TOGETHER

Slide 8 – Top tips

- Remember it's natural to feel these highs and lows.
- Be a good friend - listen to friends if they need to talk.
- Talk about what's going on.
- Stay in touch with your family if you are away from them – arrange a time to text/phone, remember your parents might be anxious too.
- Seek help together if needed.
- Now that you're thinking about what finishing school might be like... what about the risks of Schoolies celebrations? (NEXT SLIDE).

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Slide 9 – Risk perception

AUDIENCE QUESTION: My perception of being at Schoolies would be that it is...? (show of hands)

- DISCUSS ANSWERS – cluster the answer groups:
 - Safe/Mostly Safe:
 - That's great that you feel comfortable with the idea of the Schoolies environment. Remember the Schoolies experience can present you with new challenges and expose you to new situations. The more you are aware of the risks, the better prepared you can be to evaluate them.
 - Risky/Slightly Risky:
 - Recognising there are risks, or the potential for risky situations, is really great. It means you will be conscious of these, able to understand them and take responsibility for your own behaviour (hopefully reducing your exposure to risk).
- It's important to understand the risks.
- Remember: Peer influence is still the biggest influencer on your behaviour. Make your own decisions and stick to them.
- **It's up to you to make a good choice – every choice has a consequence.**
- Up next is a video with some important points around alcohol, drugs and your health (**NEXT SLIDE - VIDEO**).



Slide 10 – Drugs, alcohol & your health (VIDEO – Drugs, alcohol and your health 3:31)



Slide 11 – Don't risk it

- If you remember nothing else from this presentation, remember that the most important thing you can do in an emergency is call TRIPLE ZERO.
- Don't risk it – your safety is the number #1 priority.
- Whether it's your physical or mental wellbeing or a friend's, call triple zero immediately.
- Remember: you're a mate, not a doctor.
- Tell the truth: you will not get into trouble – ambulance staff are only interested in knowing what's been taken/happened to ensure your safety or the safety of your friend (**NEXT SLIDE**).

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Slide 12 – Practical tips

- Alcohol and drugs affect everyone differently.
- Mixing alcohol and drugs is the best way to ruin your night.
- Being under the influence of alcohol and drugs can turn regular situations into risky ones – like crossing the road or being on a balcony.
- Intoxication is one of the main reasons young people end up in the Emergency Treatment Centre during Schoolies on the Gold Coast. This can be AVOIDABLE in terms of your decision making.
- Here's some key tips for you to remember (**NEXT SLIDE**).



Slide 13 – Tips to remember

- Schoolies is not the time to experiment (with alcohol or other drugs).
- Everyone has a different tolerance to alcohol and other drugs.
- Eat well, get enough sleep and stay hydrated with water.
- If your friend doesn't want to drink or take drugs – don't make them!
- Everyone has different ideas on celebrating – respect their right to make their own decisions.
- Know your limits and circumstances.
- Your health is your own responsibility. That also goes for your sexual health... (**NEXT SLIDE**).



(VIDEO HOLDING SLIDE: will autoplay)

Slide 14 – Sexualised behaviour and consent

(VIDEO – Consent and sexualised behaviour 4:01)

- (**AFTER video**): If you still don't get it, consent is like a cup of tea, let's see why: (**NEXT SLIDE - VIDEO**).

CONSENT
IT'S SIMPLE AS TEA

(VIDEO HOLDING SLIDE: will autoplay)

Slide 15 – Consent cont.

(VIDEO – Consent is like a cup of tea 2:49)

- (**AFTER video**): Hopefully you are now pretty clear on what consent is, how you must seek it and get that verbal and enthusiastic 'yes' each and every time, and each and every step of the way (**NEXT SLIDE**).

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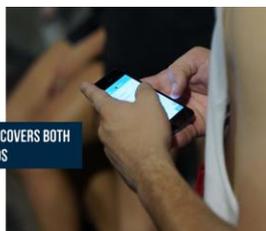


Slide 16 – Sexualised behaviour and assault cont.

- Just to recap on the key points:
 - Everyone has different boundaries
 - Be respectful of others
 - Consent is NOT able to be given if that person is intoxicated or under the influence of other drugs
 - Just because someone may consent to a certain sexual act, doesn't mean they're consenting to anything else
 - Consent is an ongoing process – it's specific to each sexual act you engage in with each and every person, so keep the conversation going
 - It can be withdrawn or re-negotiated at ANY point in a sexual encounter
 - Consent must be informed, actively and freely given, enthusiastic and continuous (and remember... it IS REVOKABLE).
- If you need to report an assault, contact police on Triple Zero.
- If you, or someone you know, needs support - 24/7 support is available nationwide, via 1800 RESPECT.
- Another area where CONSENT is extremely important is sexting (NEXT SLIDE).

SEXTING CAN HAVE
SERIOUS SOCIAL AND
LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

QUEENSLAND LAW COVERS BOTH
IMAGES AND VIDEOS

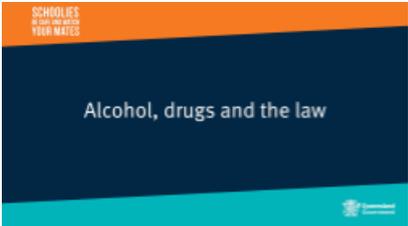
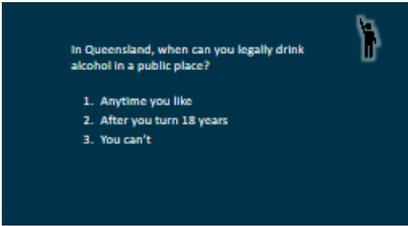


Slide 17 – Sexting and image based abuse

- Queensland has laws around the sharing of images and videos (including those that have been digitally modified).
- Sexting can have serious social and legal consequences (up to 3yrs in prison).
- In Qld, it's a crime to share (or threaten to share) an intimate image without the person's consent.
- If someone gave you the image (or permission to see the image), does not mean they have agreed for anyone else to see it.
- Anyone under 16yrs cannot give consent – it's NEVER OK to share images of anyone under 16.
- If you discover naked/sexual videos of you online, report it immediately (platform it was posted/local Police/eSafety commissioner) and seek counselling and advice.
- **Now let's take a look at some key points around alcohol, drugs and the law (NEXT SLIDE)**

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 <p>Alcohol, drugs and the law</p> <p><i>(VIDEO HOLDING SLIDE: autoplay)</i></p>	<p>Slide 18 – Alcohol, drugs and the law (VIDEO – Alcohol, drugs and the law 2:45)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (AFTER video): OK, let's see if you were listening to the officer in the video (NEXT SLIDE).
 <p>In Queensland, when can you legally drink alcohol in a public place?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anytime you like 2. After you turn 18 years 3. You can't 	<p>Slide 19 – Drinking in public AUDIENCE QUESTION – In Queensland, when can you legally drink alcohol in a public place? (show of hands)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANSWERS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You can't ○ Queensland is a dry state ○ Doesn't matter if you are 18 or 38 or 88. • Let's just go over some of the main points again... (NEXT SLIDE)
 <p>ALCOHOL AND THE LAW IN QUEENSLAND</p> <p>IT'S AGAINST THE LAW TO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + DRINK ALCOHOL IN A PUBLIC PLACE + BE DRUNK IN A PUBLIC PLACE + FOR A PERSON UNDER 18 TO BUY ALCOHOL + TO SUPPLY ALCOHOL TO A MINOR + TO CARRY ALCOHOL IN PUBLIC, IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 	<p>Slide 20 – Queensland laws, reminder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These points are relevant not just at Schoolies – these are the Qld laws. • <i>(Read through key laws on slide).</i> • You can be arrested for being drunk in public. • Don't use fake ID's/give someone else your ID/try and tamper with your ID. • Police can seize and tip out liquor – even if it's unopened. • <u>If</u> current restrictions have been lifted and you decide to travel outside Queensland, check local laws beforehand. • If you are planning on drinking it's also important to consider how you are getting to and from where you need to be (NEXT SLIDE).
 <p>PLAN YOUR #LIFTLEGEND TO GET YOU HOME SAFELY</p>	<p>Slide 21 – Alcohol and drugs when driving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving? Have a plan B/C/D to get home. • You can still be over the limit the next morning – best not to drive if you have had a big night. • Liver can only process at a certain speed: eating, sleep, drink water are good, but WON'T speed up the process. ONLY TIME. • Allow your body ample time to get rid of the alcohol from your system before you even consider getting behind the wheel. • As I have said earlier, alcohol and drugs affect everyone differently. Some people can become easily aggravated (NEXT SLIDE).

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Slide 22 – Alcohol fuelled violence

- Aggression and alcohol fuelled violence are more common when drinking, as you lose your inhibitions.
- ‘A fight over nothing, changed everything’: there are long term consequences to your actions.
- Remember that one punch can kill – often it is the fall that kills, it’s not how strong you are.
- It takes a bigger person to walk away, look out for your mates and help them to walk away.
- Often, just as you can get a sense that tensions are heating up and it’s time to get out of there, you can also sense when the actions of others make you feel uncomfortable (**NEXT SLIDE**).



Slide 23 – Bystander behaviour

- Everyone has the right to feel safe and have a good time.
- If a mate, or anyone, is behaving in a manner that doesn’t sit well with you, call it out if it’s safe for you to do so.
- Consider how you would feel if you were the person the behaviour was directed towards.
- It could be anything from the language used or the physical actions of someone towards another, to the situations you find yourself in or witness to.
- Be the person who takes action – don’t just laugh it off or look the other way.
- Another area you need to be considerate of others (and yourselves!) is with regards to social media (**NEXT SLIDE**).

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Slide 24 – Social media and the media

- No matter what your celebrations may look like, during Schoolies, the media are always on the look-out for school leavers behaving badly/doing the wrong thing.
- Don't become a headline – watch your/your friend's behaviour.
- What you post online can impact you for the rest of your life.
- Think about your digital reputation and how you want to be portrayed.
- Respect your friends – don't post/share/tag them in negative material.
- Know your privacy settings – consider setting your account to private.
- Content on social platforms has led to arrests (for example Snapchat, Tik Tok, etc).
- Being cognisant of what you post on social media is important, so too is being considerate of your fellow human beings when you are celebrating **(NEXT SLIDE)**.



Slide 25 – Respect the community & accommodation tips

- Depending on what happens with regulations around social distancing, you must adhere to whatever rules are in place or risk copping a huge fine – not to mention putting your wider community at risk!
- Please, wherever, whenever and however you end up celebrating Schoolies, make sure you RESPECT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.
- People also live/work/holiday in these areas – be conscious of noise when in accommodation/on the street.
- Accommodation: You enter a legal contract when you book your Schoolies holiday with commercial booking agents, so you need to:
 - Need to understand your obligations
 - Read the Terms & Conditions
 - Make sure you check and understand the cancellation policies in light of the changing landscape due to COVID-19
 - Read and understand the 'House Rules'
 - If you are booking as part of a group, each person is responsible (one person breaks the rules, everyone is affected).
- Wherever you find yourself celebrating the end of your school years, you need to make sure you play it safe when it comes to balconies **(NEXT SLIDE)**.

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BALCONIES CAN BE DANGEROUS

STAY WELL AWAY IF YOU ARE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUGS



Slide 26 – Balcony safety

- Balconies pose a significant risk to you when you are celebrating.
- You know balconies can be dangerous or even cause death.
- BUT if you ARE affected by alcohol or drugs, your knowledge of and ability to judge that risk, becomes very different.
- Don't have parties or visitors on your balcony.
- Don't balcony hop.
- Balconies are not the place to be in the early hours of the morning.
- Best advice is to stay well away from balconies if you are under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Hopefully this presentation has helped inform you of your rights and responsibilities, some key safety tips and the key things to be mindful of as you celebrate finishing school and start your lives ahead as young adults. Let's just remind you of some of the key messages and where you can find out more information (**NEXT SLIDE**).

+ DON'T RISK IT: CALL TRIPLE ZERO (000) IN AN EMERGENCY

+ CONSENT: ONLY YES MEANS YES

+ CARE FOR YOUR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING

+ BE BALCONY SAFE

+ RESPECT THE COMMUNITY

+ BE SAFE AND WATCH YOUR MATES

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SAFERSCHOOLIES.QLD.GOV.AU

Slide 27 – Wrap up

- *(Read through key messages on slide)*
- For safety tips and the latest information on Schoolies Gold Coast in 2021, check out Facebook and Instagram: **@SchooliesGC**
- To register for your Safer Schoolies wristband if you are visiting the Gold Coast and **for more tips and tricks to have a safe and enjoyable Schoolies** – visit the official Safer Schoolies website: **SaferSchoolies.qld.gov.au**
- All these platforms have: tips for before, during and after Schoolies, latest information on Schoolies on the GC, helpful videos and checklists to prepare for the Schoolies holiday period, links to important contacts and services.
- **Be proud of yourself for completing 13 years of schooling – it's a huge achievement!**
- **Make sure your celebrations align with the current social and health conditions and regulations.**
- **And remember, during Schoolies and in life, always 'Be Safe and Watch Your Mates'.**