

Safeguarding Reflection- **Substance Abuse**

Teen Drug and Alcohol Experimentation

Half of all new drug users are under the age of 18. Experimentation plays the biggest role in teenage drug use.

Common reasons teens abuse drugs or alcohol include:

Curiosity

Peer pressure

Stress

Emotional struggles

A desire to escape



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Signs of Teen Drug or Alcohol Abuse

Some common signs may include:

Bad grades

Bloodshot eyes

Laughing for no reason

Loss of interest in activities

Poor hygiene

Diminished personal appearance

Avoiding eye contact

Frequent hunger or “munchies”

Smell of smoke on breath or clothes

Secretive behaviour

Unusual tiredness

Missing curfew

<https://youtu.be/-5xkWvMi4n4>

This morning clip

<https://youtu.be/W7zjlek6vdg>

Advert – Reverse night out

Our Responsibility

- Schools have a duty of care; this includes ensuring that children view school as a safe retreat.
- Staff must make a DSL aware of any concerns regarding students' health and safety.
- All staff members have the responsibility to identify children at potential risk.
- Our focus on mental health and wellbeing