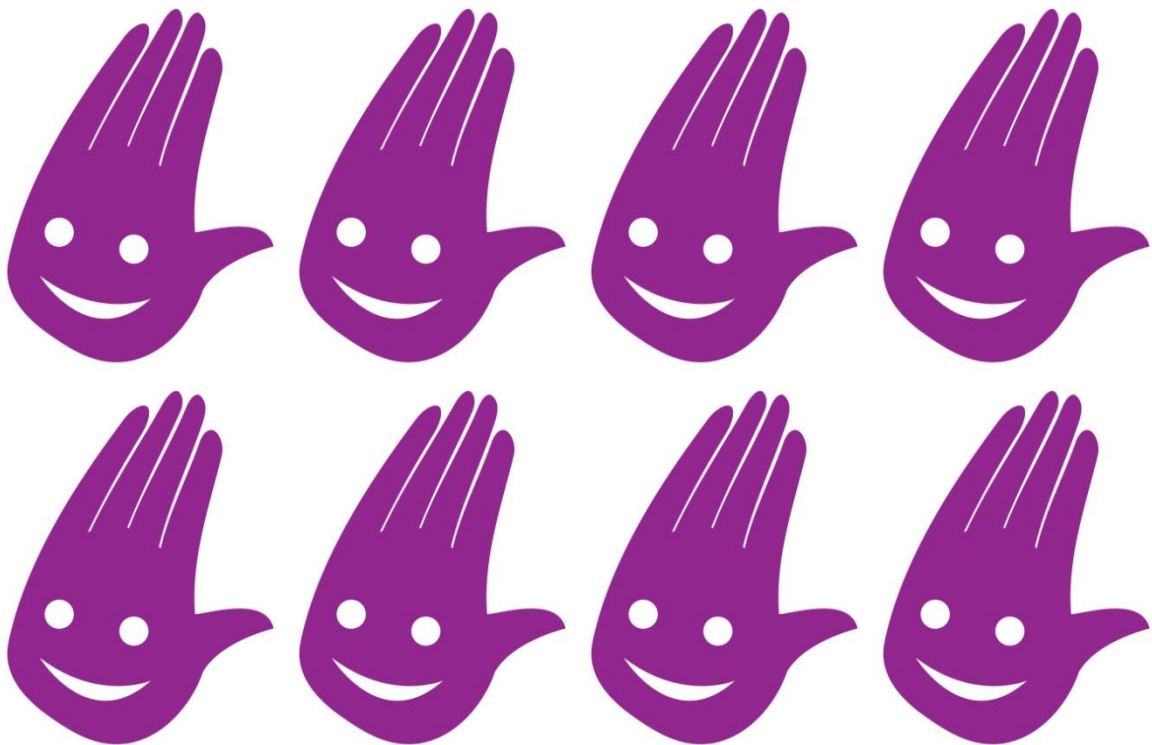




Drug Use Screening Tool (DUST)



Referrer
Date of referral
Referrer's Name
Referrer's Agency
Address _____ _____ _____
Contact Number

Minimise Harm – Prevent Escalation

Although many young people will try drugs at some time, most do not progress beyond experimentation. However, research indicates that many factors can increase the risk of a young person moving from "Drug Use" to "Drug Misuse", whilst some protective factors can reduce these risks. Unless you are a specialist drug worker it can be difficult to distinguish between use and misuse, and to accurately assess these risk factors. This tool should help.

To complete this form you do not need a comprehensive knowledge of drugs but you may need to know how to contact your nearest drugs service for young people (see opposite page). This service will be able to provide appropriate information, leaflets and guidance.

DUST is designed for use with young people about whom there may be concerns regarding drug/alcohol use.

- **It will not provide a comprehensive substance assessment**
- **It will indicate when specialist advice should be sought**
- **It will help identify the risk factors.**

Defining the terms

Drug The term 'drug' is used to refer to any psychotropic substance, including illegal substances, illicit prescription drugs and volatile substances (e.g. Solvents)

Substance Young people's drug use is often linked together with alcohol use. Drugs and alcohol together are collectively termed 'substances'.

Drug use The consumption of a drug by a young person. When the term 'use' is contrasted with 'misuse', 'use' means the consumption of a drug that does not cause any perceptible immediate harm – even though it may carry some risk of harm.

Drug misuse Use of drug of combination of substances, that harms health or social functioning – either dependent use (physical or psychological) or use that is part of a wider spectrum or problematic or harmful behaviour.

Vulnerable group Young People are at increased risk of drug misuse if they belong to certain groups and this risk increases if there is membership of more than one group.

Protective factors Increase a young person's resilience to the development of drug misuse problems.

Risk Factor Increase the likelihood that drug misuse will occur.

Protective Factors

- Positive temperament
- Supportive family environment
- Good social support system
- Caring relationship with at least one adult
- In education/employment/training
- Ability to learn from difficult experiences
- Ability to resist pressure

Risk Factors

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>1. Belonging to a 'vulnerable' group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Homeless/Runaway ➤ Young Offender ➤ Mental Health problems ➤ Unauthorised persistent absentee from school ➤ Exclude from school ➤ Outside education. Employment or training ➤ At risk of sexual exploitation ➤ Parental (family) substance misuse ➤ Conflict/disruption/abuse with family. | <p>2. Social & Cultural Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ High levels of neighbourhood crime ➤ High levels of poverty and social problems ➤ Easy drug availability ➤ Widespread acceptance of drug use ➤ Lack of perception of the risks of drug and alcohol use. | <p>3. Interpersonal & Individual Risk Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Physical and psychological factors ➤ Family problems (dysfunction) ➤ Behavioural difficulties ➤ Academic problems ➤ Association with peers many of who use drugs ➤ Early onset of drug. Alcohol or tobacco use. |
|---|--|---|

Young People's Substance Misuse Strategy in Plymouth

Two key objectives

- **To minimise the harm from substance misuse**
- **To prevent individual children and young people from developing or increasing vulnerability to experiencing substance misuse problems.**

Delivered through:

- **Developing an integrated response across all partners within the Children and Young People Trust that maximises the use of resources to provide effective and efficient services to meet identified need**
- **Building capacity in early intervention and prevention services focused on those most at risk of developing substance misuse problems to ensure a reduction in the risk of escalation.**

- **Increasing the capacity of specialist services to meet identified need**
- **Ensuring the effective joint working across children's and adult services meet the challenge of Hidden Harm and also to support the 'smooth' transition for service users from children's and young people services to adult services**
- **Ensuring that there is a competent workforce in place that supports the capability of universal and targeted services to deliver effective substance misuse education and intervention.**

Drug Use Screening Tool (DUST)

Minimise Harm – Prevent Escalation

This form is a referral for assessment by a specialist service. The Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service will use this information to determine an appropriate course of action. This may result in the young person being offered some form of intervention/treatment or in further advice and guidance being offered to the referrer. All information on completed DUST forms sent to Drug & Alcohol Services will be treated in accordance with their confidentiality policies – a copy of which is available on request. (An Eligibility criterion for the specialist service is available, contact SHARP and request a copy).



SHARP
1st Floor, Hyde Park House
Mutley Plain, Plymouth, PL4 6LF
Tel: 01752 434295
Fax: 01752 314277
Email: THCPLTD.SHARP@nhs.net

Young Person	
Does the young person consent to this referral? (if no, contact SHARP for advice)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Signature	
Does the young person consent to the information on the screening tool being shared with the Young Persons Service?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Signature	
Name & Address of Young Person	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

Postcode	

Contact Number	
Date of Birth	
Ethnicity (tick one)	
White British <input type="checkbox"/> Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Black/Black British Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> African <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Asian/Asian British Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistan <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladesh <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed W/B Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> W/B African <input type="checkbox"/> W/Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Other Mixed <input type="checkbox"/>
Other Ethnic Group Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
Have the young person's parents/carer's been informed of the referral for assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does a parent/carer consent to the young person attending an appointment if offered? (Consent is not essential for a referral to be made)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Name & Contact number of parent/guardian?	

Young Persons Expectations	

Young Person's Availability for Appointments	

Best times & means to contact young person	

Common Assessment Framework (CAF)		
Is there a CAF currently in place? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>(if Yes, please provide details of the lead professional including name, agency, contact telephone number and email address)</i>		

Other Agencies Involved		
Name	Agency	Contact Number/Email
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Child Protection Concerns <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>(including abusive violent relationships)</i> <i>(if Yes, please give details of referral made/lead agency/name of worker)</i> NB: This form is not a Child Protection Referral		

Would this young person pose significant risk to staff or others? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>(If Yes, please give details)</i>		

Reasons for Referral		
Please add any additional background information that may be relevant to the assessment of this young person. <i>(Please use additional sheet of paper if required)</i>		

Main (primary) problem substance _____		
Secondary problem substance _____ <i>(If identified)</i>		

OUTCOME: Need identified from DUST screeningSubstance Misuse need identified Yes No**OUTCOME: Intervention offered and accepted**Referral to specialist substance misuse offered and accepted Intervention other than by specialist substance misuse service offered and accepted **OUTCOME: Intervention offered and refused**Referral to specialist substance misuse offered and declined Intervention other than by specialist substance misuse service offered and declined **Young Person's details (profiling only)**

Age _____ Ethnicity – see overleaf for groups _____

Male Postcode _____Female

Primary problem substance _____

Secondary problem substance (if identified) _____

Scoring Table**Section 1: Substance use**

Score 0-1	Score 2-5	Score 6+
LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK Consider seeking advice from SHARP	HIGH RISK Consider seeking advice from SHARP

Section 2: Social situation/behaviour

A high score means that a young person is vulnerable to developing substance misuse problems and should increase your level of concern.

Score 0-1	Score 2-5	Score 6+
LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK Consider seeking advice from SHARP	HIGH RISK Consider seeking advice from SHARP

Section 3: General and Psychological health

A high score means that a young person is vulnerable to developing substance misuse problems and should increase your level of concern.

Score 0-1	Score 2-5	Score 6+
LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK Consider seeking advice from SHARP	HIGH RISK Consider seeking advice from SHARP

Section 1 – Substance Use

Drug Type	
2	Alcohol
2	Amphetamine
2	Cannabis
4	Cocaine
4	Crack
4	Crystal Meth
4	Ecstasy
4	Heroin
4	LSD
4	Magic Mushrooms
4	Solvents/Gas/Aerosols
2	Legal Highs
2	Other(s) please list (include misuse of prescribed drugs). Scores 2 each

Substance Use: Frequency

1	Occasional drug/alcohol use
2	Regular drug/alcohol use

Injecting

0	Not injecting
2	Currently/recently injecting

Substance Use: Intoxication

0	Substance use without loss of consciousness or aggression
2	Substance use with loss of consciousness or aggression

Contact with Other Substance Users

0	No drug/alcohol Using Friends
1	Some friends who use drugs/alcohol and some who don't
2	All friends use drugs/alcohol

Family Drug/Alcohol Use

0	No known family/carer drug/alcohol misuse
2	Known drug/alcohol misuse among close family member(s)/carer's
3	Significantly affected by someone else's drug/alcohol misuse

Total Section 1 _____

Section 2 – Social Situation/Behaviour

Living Situation	
0	No problem with accommodation
1	Problems with accommodation, insecure or inadequate housing
1	Looked after by Local Authority
6	Homeless

Adult Support

0	Has supportive relationship with more than one adult
1	Has supportive relationship with one adult
2	Has no supportive relationships with adults

Occupation

0	In education/employment/training
1	Truanted from school/at risk of school exclusion/drug or alcohol related absences from work
2	Outside education/employment/training

Criminal Involvement

0	No Criminal Involvement
1	At risk of involvement in the Criminal Justice System
2	Involved in Criminal Justice System or committing more serious crimes

Sexual Behaviour

0	Age appropriate/safe sexual behaviour
2	Inappropriate/unsafe sexual behaviour
6	Commercial sex/abusive sexual relations

Total Section 2 _____

Section 3 – General & Psychological Health

General Health	
0	Young person reports no significant health problems
1	Teeth problems
1	Stomach problems
1	Regular headaches
1	Difficulty Sleeping
5	Chronic fatigue
5	Severe sleep problems
3	Self-neglect
10	Extreme weight loss
10	Blackouts and/or memory loss
10	Pregnant
10	Fitting
10	Accidental/planned overdose

Psychological Health

0	Young Person reports no significant psychological problems
1	Low self esteem
1	Mild anxiety
1	Shyness
5	Eating disorder/marked change in eating pattern (e.g. Loss of appetite/bingeing)
5	Frequent bouts of unhappiness/depression
5	Self-Harm
10	Severe anxiety/panic attacks
10	Suicidal Ideation
10	Severe paranoia
10	Hallucinations (when not under the influence of substances)

Total Section 3 _____

Drug Use Screening Tool (DUST)**Minimise Harm – Prevent Escalation**

This tool is for guidance. It is intended to assist with decision making about how to respond to substance use by a young person. It does not remove the need for professional judgment which should take account of factors such as the age and maturity of the young person.