



Young people's drug and alcohol screening tool

This Screening Tool is for guidance.

The Pre-Screen and Screening Tool questions should be completed collaboratively with the young person; the risk and protective factors are completed by the worker.

If you are already sure that the young person is using substances and you consider they are in a high risk situation you can contact the Tier 3 services immediately without filling out this form.

The tool does not substitute professional judgement.
Use Pre-Screen with the young person and check through the risk factors.

The additional tools (**AUDIT C** and **CRAFFT**) are voluntary to help inform you and the young person on what is going on and what support might be needed.

Make sure you let the young person know the purpose of the screen:

- To help find out if there is any information we can give you that would be useful. To help you look at what is going on for yourself or those close to you.
- To help you find the right person to talk to about anything you might be worried or unhappy about around drugs and alcohol.

Speak to a worker who is at Tier 2 level of substance misuse service delivery if you are not sure or have any queries, or refer to the Guide to using the screening tool.

1. Pre - Screen

What do you think about alcohol or drugs?
Has anyone ever talked to you about alcohol or drugs? or When was the last time you remember someone talking to you about alcohol or drugs? e.g. school, mum, dad, carer, nurse, friends.
Was it useful?

	Yes	No
1. Have you ever been offered drugs or alcohol?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comment
.....

2. Have you recently or in the past ever tried drugs or alcohol?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Comment
.....

3. Are you concerned about anyone else's drinking or drug use? Friends or family?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Comment
.....

If the answer is NO to questions 1-3 screening is not necessary
If the answer is YES to one or all of these questions you should use the screening tool.

2. Risk and Protective Factors

Risk or Vulnerability Factors

If they have reported that they are using drugs and alcohol please go through the following risk factors. You do not need to complete this with the young person.

If one or more of these are ticked consider signposting or referral.

- | | Tick if they apply |
|---|-----------------------|
| Are they under the age of 14? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Do they have a history of offending?
<i>To consider: Are they known to YOT?</i> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Have they been diagnosed with ADHD, defiance or conduct disorder or are they statemented? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Do they have a history of unauthorised persistent absenteeism from school? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Have they had any social work involvement?
<i>To consider: What is their relationship like with their social worker?</i> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Are they at risk of sexual exploitation?
<i>To consider: Are they aware of sexual health services available?</i> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Is there any parental (family) drugs and alcohol misuse? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Do they live in a place where there are high levels of neighbourhood crime? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Do they live in a place where there are high levels of poverty and social problems? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Are they homeless or living in unsuitable / unsafe accommodation?
<i>To consider: Do they need to be put in contact with the P2I services in their local area?</i> | <input type="radio"/> |

Interpersonal & Individual risk factors

If you tick any of these, and the young person is under 18, please contact the local CAMHS team for advice or to make a referral.

http://www.sompar.nhs.uk/our_serviceschildrenandyoungpeople/

For over 18's, please contact the local Adult Community Mental Health team. http://www.sompar.nhs.uk/our_services/adult_services/

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Do they have or report a history of depression or anxiety? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Do they have or report a history of self harm? | <input type="radio"/> |
| Do they report ever feeling suicidal? | <input type="radio"/> |

Protective or Resilience Factors

Not all young people from vulnerable groups will develop drugs and alcohol misuse problems at all. Consider protective or resilience factors.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Positive temperament | <input type="radio"/> |
| Supportive family environment | <input type="radio"/> |
| Good social support system | <input type="radio"/> |
| Caring relationship with at least one adult | <input type="radio"/> |
| In education / employment / training | <input type="radio"/> |
| Ability to learn from difficult experiences | <input type="radio"/> |
| Ability to resist pressure | <input type="radio"/> |
| Others: | <input type="radio"/> |

3. Screening Tool

This is a guide. Use your professional judgement.

Substances used (score points as shown for each substance used in the last 6 months)

Alcohol 1 _____
Cannabis 1 _____
Solvents 4 _____

Any other drugs?

No go straight to frequency.

Yes carry on

Amphetamine ♦ 2 _____
Ketamine ♦ 3 _____
Mephedrone / M-CAT 2 _____
Legal highs 2 _____
Ecstasy / MDMA 2 _____
LSD / Magic Mushrooms 2 _____
Cocaine ♦ 3 _____
Crack ♦ 5 _____
Heroin ♦ 5 _____
Others (e.g. Benzo's – tranquillisers) Score 2 for each 2 _____

Frequency of use of the substance used most (one score only)

Haven't used for 6 months 0 _____
Once or twice every few months 1 _____
At least once a month 2 _____
At least once a week 3 _____
3 or 4 times a week 4 _____
Daily 5 _____
Many times a day every day 8 _____

Method of use (score for all substances)

Smoking, swallowing, snorting 0 _____
Injecting any substance 8 _____
(♦ indicates most commonly injected substances)

Age (score once only)

17 – 19 0 _____
14 - 16 2 _____
11 - 13 4 _____
10 or under 7 _____

Total screening tool score:

Are you concerned or unhappy with anything about your drinking or drug use? Yes No

Would you like to talk more to someone about drugs or alcohol? This could be to get more information or for support for yourself or someone else.

Yes No

Risk	Score	Guide	Next step
No risk	0	Not currently using drugs or drinking alcohol	<p>Tier 1 intervention is appropriate</p> <p>End questionnaire. Offer education and any information for interest. Continue to offer universal support.</p> <p>If they are concerned about a parent or carers drug or alcohol use, access support and help for non-using children and young people of substance misusing parents.</p>
Low risk	1 - 5	This young person has experimented with alcohol or some drugs but is not using regularly and is not having serious problems	<p>Use your professional judgement. Contact a specialist substance misuse worker for advice. If appropriate they will develop a relationship and care plan with the young person.</p> <p>For contact details and information about the referral process to Somerset Drug & Alcohol Service check the SDAP website. Tier 2 interventions could still be beneficial.</p> <p>If you have concerns about their mental health, speak directly to the CAMHS team (under 18's) or Adult Community Mental Health (for over 18's).</p> <p>If you have any safeguarding concerns follow your agencies safeguarding policy & procedures.</p>
Medium risk	6 - 8	This young person is using fairly regularly, might have experimented with drugs like cocaine or ketamine, and may be having some problems. As well as making sure they have good information about the risks involved, help them think about how their drinking or drug use is affecting them. Their use could easily start to take over their life or cause big problems.	<p>Tier 2 or 3 interventions would be appropriate</p> <p>If the young person has said they want to talk to someone about their alcohol or drug use, contact a worker who delivers Tier 2 interventions.</p> <p>If they have said they do not, let them know you will contact a worker for advice on how to support them.</p> <p>Try to reassure them and suggest meeting a Tier 2 worker who can provide a confidential service and help them explore their use further.</p> <p>If you feel there are more serious risks than have come out of the screening or there are concerns about mental health as well as substance misuse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speak to a specialist substance misuse worker and/or • talk to the CAMHS team (for under 18's) or Adult Community Mental Health (for over 18's) for advice • and/or follow your agency's safeguarding policy & procedures.
High risk	9+	This young person is almost certainly using heavily and taking too many risks. Their use of drugs or alcohol is likely to be seriously affecting them in a bad way. You need to respond quickly	<p>Use your professional judgement. Contact a specialist substance misuse worker for advice. If appropriate they will develop a relationship and care plan with the young person. For contact details and information about the referral process to Somerset Drug & Alcohol Service check the SDAP website. Tier 2 interventions could still be beneficial.</p> <p>If you have concerns about their mental health, speak directly to the CAMHS team (under 18's) or Adult Community Mental Health (for over 18's).</p> <p>If you have any safeguarding concerns follow your agency's safeguarding policy & procedures.</p>