

Guidance for talking to young people under 18 years about their drug and alcohol use

If you are concerned about a young person's drug use or alcohol use then it is important to use the following screening tool to help you risk assess what support is needed for them.

Please be aware of safeguarding thresholds throughout assessment and intervention.

Questions	0	1	2	3	4
How often do you use a drug or alcohol? Drug name:	Never	Monthly	Weekly	Three to four times a week	Daily
How much do you use a day? Alcohol- units Drugs, eg, grams/ ounces/ joints/ tablets					
Has anyone expressed concern about your use or suggested you cut down in the last year?	Never	In the last year	In the last month	In the last week	Regularly
How often have you had 6 or more units of alcohol if female, or 8 or more if male, on a single occasion in the last year? Or How often have you used an illegal substance in the last year?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily



If a young person indicates they are using substances or alcohol at all, there must be an action within their assessment and action plan to address this.

If they answer 2's or above in relation to alcohol on any of the questions and/or if there has been more than 2 instances of substance misuse or if you have any concerns at all - ensure an alcohol and/or drug assessment is completed.

For alcohol this is a full Audit C tool, for drugs this is the drug assessment for North Tyneside. Both of these are available to you once you have completed either MECC training and/or the Basic Drug Awareness and Assessment training. If you need to do this training please book on via the Learning Pool.

Further support is available through a variety of sources – please refer to the NT Drug and Alcohol Support Pathway for further information

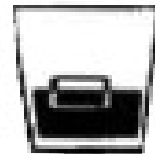
This is one unit of alcohol...



Half pint of regular beer, larger or cider



1 small glass of wine



1 single measure of spirits



1 small glass of sherry



1 single measure of aperitifs

...and each of these are more than one unit



Pint of regular beer, larger or cider



Pint of premium beer, larger or cider



Alcopop or can/bottle of regular larger



Can of premium larger or strong beer



Can of super strength larger



Glass of wine



Bottle of wine