# Primary Care Briefing: North Yorkshire Support for Young People regarding Drug Misuse





- Drug use among young people has risen over the past 5 years. In 2018, 38% of 15 year olds in England said that they had used drugs at some point.
- The most commonly used drugs are: Cannabis, followed by Powder Cocaine, MDMA, Ketamine and Amphetamine.
- In NYY information indicates an increase in the use of 'Edibles'; including drug infused sweets (Nerd Rope, Jelly Babies, Flying Saucers, Millions, Chuckles, Skittles, Haribo, Mr Crush Candies, Mr Ben, Cannabis sugar, Popping Candy, Oreos, Worms). It is not clear exactly what these substances are although it is believed they may contain THC (psychoactive substance of cannabis), MDMA or other substances.

It is not uncommon to want to try drugs or drink alcohol in teenage years.

Some young people may experiment and then make the positive choice not to participate but, there are also those who become dependent on drugs or alcohol

You may see obvious warning signs:

- Money going missing or being spent with no clear evidence of what has been bought
- Suspicious substances or equipment
- Lying or secretive behaviour
- Aggression
- Sudden or regular mood changes
- Drowsiness
- Loss of appetite or interest in school, work or friends
- Also, consider signs of child criminal exploitation, sexual exploitation & trafficking

# Compass REACH

A free, confidential health and wellbeing service for children and young people in North Yorkshire aged 9 to 19 (or up to 25 years old if you have special educational needs or disabilities) who need support with issues related to **drugs**, **alcohol**, **mental health and / or sexual health**.



**Compass BUZZ** offers a confidential text messaging service to young people aged 11-18 across North Yorkshire.

Young people can text **BUZZ US** about any mental health or wellbeing concerns such as low mood, stress, eating problem, self harm, anxiety or self esteem.





North Yorkshire Horizons is the adult drug and alcohol recovery service (18+). Tel: 01723 330730 email: info@nyhorizons.org.uk

## Making a Referral to Compass Reach

Compass Reach operates an open referral system: selfreferrals and referrals from parents and carers are welcome. Professionals can also refer via the referral form, but please make sure the young person is aware.

### As a Professional please complete the Compass Reach Referral Form via the website



Tel: 01609 777662 or Freephone no. 0800 008 7452



Your GP safeguarding lead & the CCG Safeguarding team are able to offer safeguarding supervision, support and advice (see copy of contact list)





You can also contact the North Yorkshire Early Help team **via the MAST** for general advice and support for the young person and family.

To make an Early Help Referral please complete the Universal Referral form. Consent is always required for early help

### National Support:

National website and helpline for young People regarding drug misuse: <u>https://www.talktofrank.com/</u>

helpline number 24-hours a day: 0300 123 6600,

National websites for parents/carers for support and advice: <u>https://adfam.org.uk/</u>

If you have any intelligence regarding where drugs are being purchased by young people or know of places in the community where young people are gathering to sell, buy or take drugs please complete a Partnership Intelligence Sharing Form and send to:

Intelligenceunit@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

| Partnership information form   |
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Intelligence Sharing

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Pease refer to the one minute guide for more information on intelligence sharing.

Please remember if you have <u>safeguarding concerns</u> about a child MAKE a referral to North Yorkshire Children's Social Care.

Professional Hotline: 01609 536993 Contact Centre: 01609 780780

Outside office hours, at weekends and on public holidays, contact the emergency duty team.



Telephone: 01609 780780 Email: edt@northyorks.gov.uk