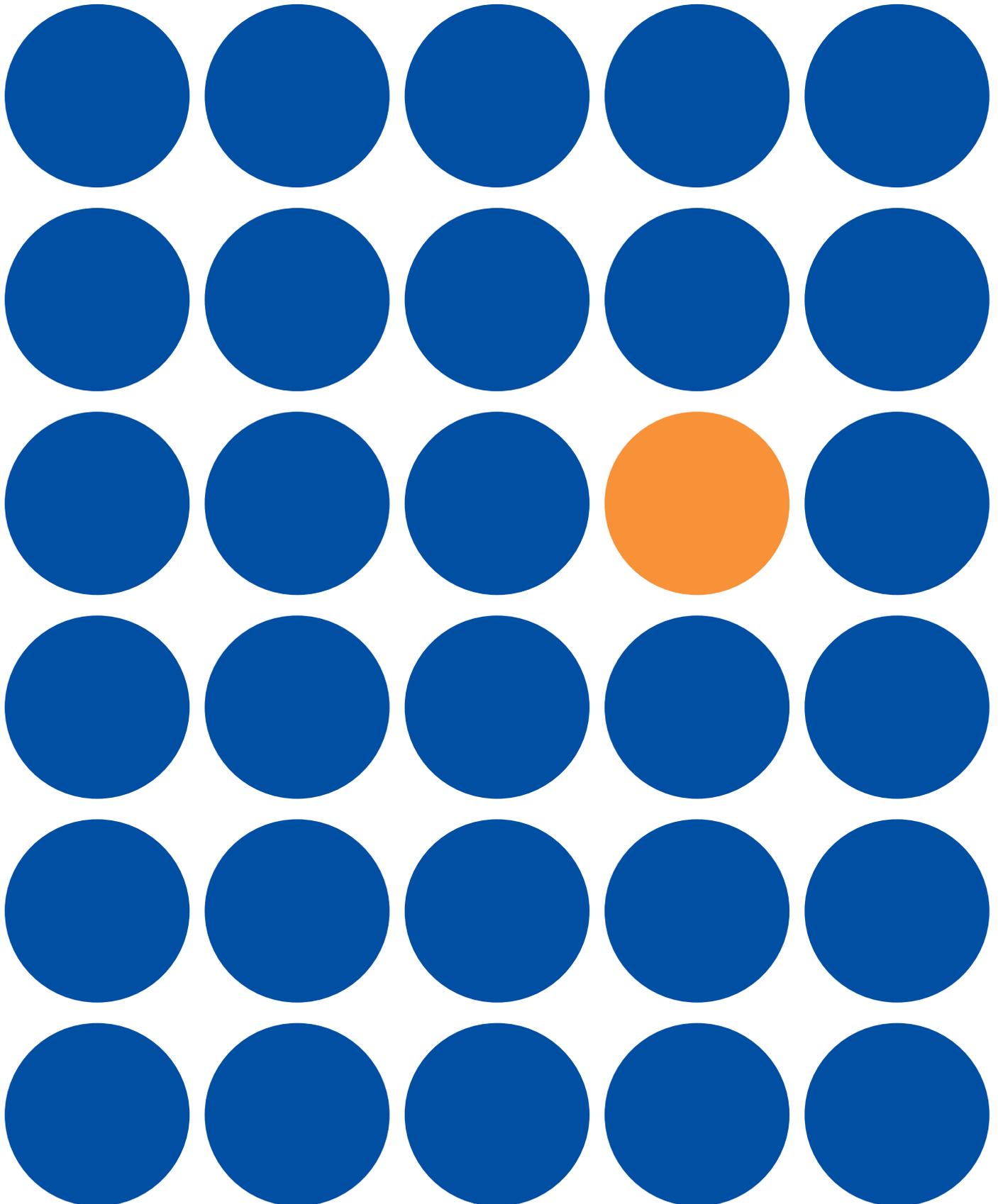


YOUNG PERSONS'

Drug & ALCOHOL

# Use Screening Tool (DUST)



**A**LTHOUGH many young people will try drugs & alcohol 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 & alcohol use' to 'drug & alcohol misuse', whilst some protective factors can reduce these risks. Unless you are a specialist drug & alcohol 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 & alcohol but you may need to know how to contact your nearest drugs & alcohol 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 drug/alcohol use assessment.
- It will indicate when specialist advice should be sought.
- It will help identify risk factors.

## Defining the terms

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

**Drug/alcohol misuse** Use of a drug/alcohol or combination of drugs and alcohol, that harms health or social functioning - either dependent use (physical or psychological) or use that is part of a wider spectrum of problematic or harmful behaviour.

**Vulnerable group** Young people are at increased risk of drug/alcohol 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/alcohol misuse problems.

**Risk factors** Increase the likelihood that drug/alcohol misuse will occur.

## Protective Factors

- Positive temperament
- Intellectual ability
- Supportive family environment
- Social support system
- Caring relationship with at least one adult
- In education/employment/training

## Belonging to a 'vulnerable' group

- Young sex workers
- Young offenders
- Looked after children
- Mental health problems
- School non-attenders
- Drug/alcohol misuse by parents
- Abuse within the family
- Homeless

## Risk Factors

### Social & Cultural Factors

- High levels of neighbourhood crime
- High levels of poverty & decay
- Easy drug availability
- Areas where there is widespread social acceptance of drug use
- Lack of perception of the risks from drugs/alcohol

### Interpersonal & Individual Risk Factors

- Physiological & psychological factors
- Family dysfunction
- Behavioural difficulties
- Academic problems
- Association with peers who use drugs/alcohol
- Early onset of drug or alcohol use

The Kent Drug Alcohol Action Team (KDAAT) aim to reduce drug and alcohol related harm for young people, their parents/carers and the community.

This is achieved by robust and accountable multi-agency commissioning of services, ensuring integration within wider children's services in Kent. KDAAT partner agencies and service providers ensure:

- **Universal Services:** Drug and Alcohol education for all young people as part of a holistic approach, delivered through the PSHE element of Kent Healthy Schools Programme and Schools Drugs Education Advisers.
- **Early Intervention Services:** Targeted and prevention services for young people from vulnerable groups, support for parents and carers and training for professionals.
- **Specialist Treatment:** An accessible high quality range of treatment and support services for young people experiencing alcohol/drug misuse related problems.

Further information about KDAAT for professionals, parents and carers, please visit [www.kdaat.co.uk](http://www.kdaat.co.uk)

Alternatively contact us directly:

### KDAAT

3rd Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XX

Tel 01622 221676

Young people can access further information about drugs and alcohol through [www.foryoungpeople.co.uk](http://www.foryoungpeople.co.uk)

## DUST Training

If you require training to explore drug and alcohol misuse and how to refer to services please contact KCA YPS on 01227 456744 or email [yps@kca.org.uk](mailto:yps@kca.org.uk)

DUST form is available online at [www.kdaat.co.uk](http://www.kdaat.co.uk) which also has information about how to get DUST training, a PDF and excel version of the DUST form.

KCA provided early intervention and specialist drugs and alcohol services for young people across Kent. For further advice please contact them on 01227 456744 or [yps@kca.org.uk](mailto:yps@kca.org.uk)

If you would like further information about Healthy Schools please go to:

[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/children/kenthealthyschools\\_home.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/children/kenthealthyschools_home.cfm)

and if you would like further information about Schools Drugs Education Advisers please go to:

<http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/drugs.cfm>



## Young Person

Does the young person consent to this referral?  Yes  No  
(If no, contact Young Persons' Service for advice)

Does the young person consent to the information on the screening tool being shared with the Young Persons' Service?  Yes  No

What does the young person want from the service?

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Name & Address of Young Person  Male  Female

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Postcode

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Contact Number

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2nd Contact Number

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Alternative contact

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Date of Birth Age

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Ethnicity (tick one)

<input type="checkbox"/> White British	<input type="checkbox"/> White Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian /Asian British
<input type="checkbox"/> White Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Mixed	<input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean /Black British
<input type="checkbox"/> Other White	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian /Asian British	<input type="checkbox"/> African /Black British
<input type="checkbox"/> White /Black British	<input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani /Asian British	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese /Other Ethnic
<input type="checkbox"/> White /Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi /Asian British	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Stated

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Have the young person's parents / carers consented to this referral? Yes  No

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Name & Contact Number of Parent/Guardian

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Young Person's Availability for Appointments

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What is the best way to contact the young person? Text  Letter  Phone

Young person's signature

## Referrer

Date of Referral

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Referrer's Name

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Referrer's Agency

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Have you received DUST training? Yes  No

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Address

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Contact Number

## Other Agencies involved

Agency	Name	Address & Contact Number
GP		
School		
Social Services		
CAMHS		
YOS		
Connexions		
Other – please state		

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Does young person have a diagnosed medical condition Yes  No   
and is on Medication Yes  No

If YES please give details

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Has a CAF been completed with young person Yes  No

If yes, please give details

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Safeguarding concerns Yes  No

If yes, please give details (including lead agency and name of worker)

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Has the young person ever, or currently been subject to a child protection plan. Yes  No

If yes, please give details:

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Would this young person pose any significant risk to staff or others? Yes  No

If yes, please give details

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## Reasons for Referral

Please add any additional background information that may be relevant to the assessment of this young person.

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## What happens next?

On receipt of this form a worker will be allocated and will make contact with you.

### Please return to:

**EAST KENT: KCA Young Persons' Service** 34 Simmonds Road, Canterbury, Kent. CT1 3RA  
 Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway, Swale, Thanet **Tel: 01227 456744** Fax: 01227 457628 [yps@kca.org.uk](mailto:yps@kca.org.uk)

**WEST KENT AND MEDWAY: KCA Young Persons' Service** 205/217 New Road, Chatham, Kent. ME4 4QA  
 Dartford, Gravesham, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Malling, Tunbridge Wells **Tel: 01634 338640** Fax: 01634 338649 [medway@kca.org.uk](mailto:medway@kca.org.uk)