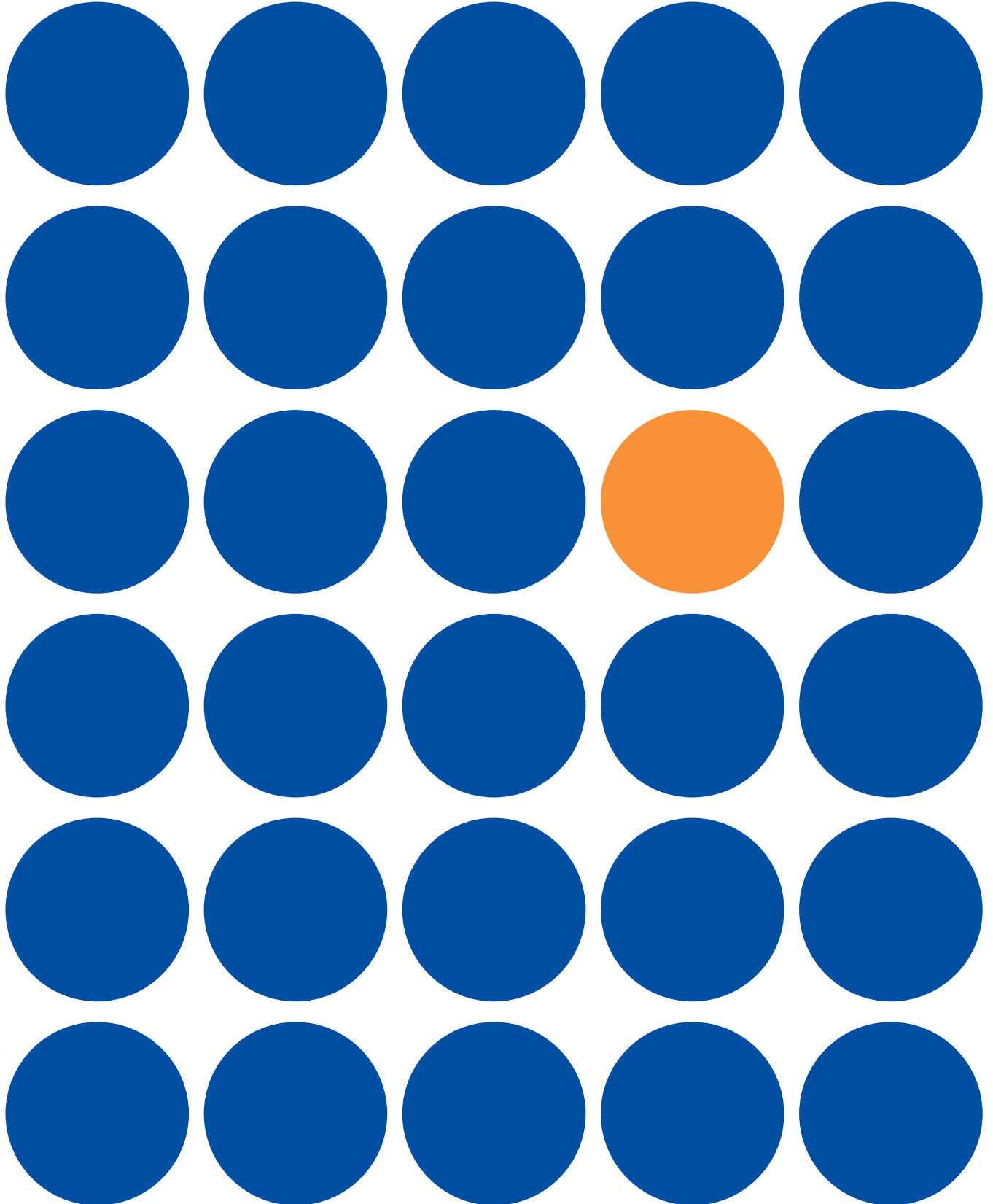




YOUNG PEOPLE'S

Drug & Alcohol Use Screening Tool (DUST)



ALTHOUGH 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

1 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

2 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

3 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, (National Drugs Strategy 2008) by implementing Public Service Agreement 14 (PSA 14) Increasing the Number of Young People on the Path to Success and PSA 25 Reducing the Harm Caused by Alcohol and Drugs.

These aims are 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 and parents & carers and where to report anecdotal evidence please go to www.kdaat.org/yp.

Young people can access further information about drugs and alcohol through www.foryoungpeople.co.uk.



Young Peoples Services

Kent Drug & Alcohol Action Team
Whitstable Youth Centre, Tower Parade, Whitstable, Kent CT5 2BJ

Tel: 01227 280358

DUST Training

If you require training on young people alcohol and drugs and how to refer to services contact KCA YPS on 01227 456744 or email yps@kca.org.uk

DUST form is available online at www.dust-training.co.uk which also has information about how to get DUST training, a PDF and excel version of the DUST form.

KCA provide targeted and specialist drug and alcohol interventions for young people across the whole of Kent. For further advice please contact them on 01227 456744 or yps@kca.org.uk

Grey Zebra offer the **Drug Intervention Support Programme** which is designed to prevent young people who use cannabis from entering the criminal justice system or being excluded from school. For more information contact Grey Zebra on 01622 817820 or email greyzebra@kenwardtrust.org.uk

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

<http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/children/healthyschools2.cfm>

& 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?

Name & Address of Young Person Male Female

Postcode

Contact Number

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

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

Does young person have a diagnosed medical condition Yes No

and is on Medication Yes No
 If YES please give details

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

Name & Contact Number of Parent/Guardian

Young Person's Availability for Appointments

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

Young person's signature

Referrer

Date of Referral

Referrer's Name

Referrer's Agency

Have you received DUST training? Yes No

Address

Contact Number

Other Agencies involved

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

Has a CAF been completed with young person Yes No

If yes, please give details

Child protection concerns Yes No

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

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

If yes, please give details

Reasons for Referral

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

What happens next?

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

Please return to:

EAST KENT: Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway, Swale, Thanet	KCA Young Persons' Service Tel: 01227 456744	41 Wincheap, Canterbury, Kent. CT1 3RX Fax: 01227 457628 yps@kca.org.uk
WEST KENT & MEDWAY: Dartford, Gravesham, Maidstone, Medway, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Malling, Tunbridge Wells	KCA Young Persons' Service Tel: 01634 338640	Richmond Road, Gillingham, Kent. ME7 1LX Fax: 01634 338649 medway@kca.org.uk

For further copies of the DUST form please contact your local KCA Young Persons Service or visit www.dust-training.co.uk