

Sharing Information with your Parent or carer

If you are over the age of 16, you are generally viewed as being able to “consent” to your own treatment. This means that your parents will not always have to know that you are receiving a service for your substance use.

If you are under the age of 16 years, we will always encourage you to inform your parents, as they may need to give permission for you to see a worker. There are some circumstances when you could receive drug treatment without your parents being aware of this, but this can only happen following an assessment by a substance use specialist. Only one parent or carer needs to give consent to treatment.

Whatever your age, we would recommend that you inform your parents/carers that you are in contact with our service. We understand that this may be difficult, so we will support you in what ever way we can, should you decide to talk to your parents.

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 5:00pm
01454 866000

A message may be left out of hours on this number

Alternatively contact the ‘Frank’ Drugs helpline on

FRANK

0800 77 66 00 talktofrank.com

This information can be made available in other languages, in large print, Braille or on audio tape.

Please phone 01454 868008 if you need any of these or any other help to access Council services.

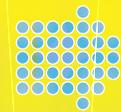
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YOUNG PEOPLE'S DRUG & ALCOHOL SERVICE

Information
for Young
People

www.southglos.gov.uk

 South Gloucestershire
Council



What do we provide?

YPDAS provides a range of services for young people under eighteen who are using drugs, alcohol or solvents.

We see young people in different places across South Gloucestershire and will arrange an appointment as near as possible to you.

When we first meet you, we will find out more about your substance use, what changes you may want to make and what support you may need to do this. This will take place over a couple of sessions. We can provide you with information about the effects and risks of using substances.

If you need to continue seeing us over a longer period of time we can offer specific support, advice and information to enable you to make positive changes. This is known as 'treatment'.

Depending on the drugs that you may be using, treatment can also involve medical support being provided for you. If you do need this type of treatment, we would need to refer you to a service where you can get this help.

Who knows about your substance use?

It is important for you to be able to talk about yourself and your substance use with us, knowing that we won't share your information with anyone unless you have agreed to it.

There are times however, when we would have to pass information on to others, whether or not you have agreed to us doing this. (If such a situation did happen, we would try to talk about this with you first).

These situations include;

- When there is a real risk of danger, severe harm or death to yourself others
- When immediate medical treatment is necessary.

We might also need to share information with law enforcement agencies (if, for example, you gave us information about locations of drug taking or dealing or if a serious crime had been committed by yourself or another person). This would also be the case if you were missing from home or planning to run away from home.

Your records

We keep a record of our sessions and to protect your confidentiality, we store your records in a paper file in a locked cupboard and also on a computer, where possible using your initials only. You have the right to see what information has been kept about you and all on-going records are destroyed after 10 years, or when you are 25.

When we see you, we need to provide data to the Department of Health, but only in a form that cannot identify you.

We also provide statistical information to the National Drug Treatment Service. Your full name and address are not passed on - just your initials., age etc.

