

USEFUL NUMBERS

Frank

0800 77 66 00

Free helpline for anyone concerned about drugs

Young Minds Parents Information Service

0808 8025544

Free helpline for parents concerned about mental health issues and their children (anxiety, depression, self harming, behaviour problems etc)

DHI South Gloucestershire

01454 868750

Harm reduction and structured treatment services for adults using drugs and alcohol, and for those affected by a family member or friend's use.

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
Professionals

www.southglos.gov.uk


South Gloucestershire
Council

INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONALS



WHAT DO WE OFFER?

The Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service provides treatment services for young people under eighteen years, whose use of drugs or alcohol causes them problems or affects their ability to access opportunities.

Services provided for young people include: assessment, advice and information, therapeutic support, education, harm reduction and referral to specialist treatment such as prescribing and in-patient programmes if this is appropriate.

We also provide advice, consultation and training for professionals working with groups of young people who may be vulnerable to drug or alcohol use.

REFERRAL

Professionals can refer young people via Access and Response. If a young person is already known to the Youth Offending Team, we can link you with specialist substance use specialists within this service. If you are unclear, please phone for assistance.

We also accept referrals directly from young people or their parents/carers.

If you are unsure on whether to refer, a screening tool, available from us by e-mail/post, can be helpful.

Referrals should meet one or more of the following criteria:

- ⇒ **Substance use is affecting day-to-day functioning:**
 - young person is intoxicated in school/college/ work
 - substance use has led to a drug related incident in school/college or disciplinary issues in work
 - substance use appears to be affecting young person's concentration and performance in school/work etc
- ⇒ **Substance use itself has become problematic:**
 - young person reports that they are unable to control or reduce their substance use
 - substance use is having a disruptive effect upon relationships with family and peers
 - substance use is leading to financial difficulties and/or health concerns (weight loss, sleep difficulties etc)
 - young person is engaged in risky substance using practices (injecting, mixing different drugs, using substances whilst alone)
- ⇒ **Offending issues:**
 - substance use is leading to offending (to fund substance use or offending whilst person is intoxicated), but young person is not yet involved with criminal justice system (Youth Offending Team)
- ⇒ **Mental health concerns:**
 - substance use appears to be associated with mental health difficulties (low mood, anxiety, increased aggression, poor motivation etc) or is a secondary issue for young people with existing mental health issues

ASSESSMENT

Initial assessment usually takes place at the referring organisation, but could be elsewhere if the young person prefers.

Young people are typically seen by themselves, to ensure they feel they have privacy to discuss their substance use. Parental consent for assessments of under sixteen year olds may be required with each case assessed individually.

Following assessment, a Care Plan is written with the young person, identifying treatment needs, how this will be met and the changes they want to make. Depending on the young person's needs and their willingness to engage treatment may range from brief interventions over just one or two sessions to regular sessions over a much longer period.

TREATMENT

If a young person requires further treatment, we will work closely with you to address their substance related needs and to ensure that their other needs are being met.

For more information or to refer a young person, please contact:

✉ accessandresponse@southglos.gov.uk
🌐 www.southglos.gov.uk
☎ **01454 866000**