



WARNING SIGNS THAT YOUR CHILD MAY BE USING DRUGS

- Changes in friends
- Declining grades or skipping school
- Increased secrecy about possessions or activities
- Increase in borrowing money
- Drug paraphernalia such as pipes, bong (sometimes made out of soda bottles and cans), rolling papers or clothing that promotes drug culture
- Use of incense, air fresheners, perfume, gum and breath mints to hide the smell of smoke and alcohol
- Frequent mood swings
- Withdrawal from friends or family
- Depression
- Violent, hostile, or aggressive behavior
- Red or glassy eyes (Visine is often used to cover up red eyes)
- Loss of interest in extra-curricular or recreational activities that were once enjoyed
- Slurred speech or lack of coordination
- Increased lying and manipulation
- Changes in eating or sleeping habits
- Carelessness with grooming and hygiene
- Disappearing medications and valuables from the home

The unpredictable behavior that is typical among preteens and teenagers can make it difficult for parents to determine signs of drug or alcohol abuse. But if your child exhibits one or more of the above behaviors, consider the possibility that he or she is using drugs. To obtain help contact your mental health provider or call the Oakland County Health Division Office of Substance Abuse Services at 248-858-0001.



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