

How can you tell if your child is using drugs?

Signs and Symptoms:

Negative changes in schoolwork

Missing school

Increased secrecy about possessions or activities

Increase in borrowing money

New friends

Use of room

deodorant or perfume to hide smoke or chemical odors

Bottles of eye drops

New use of mouthwash or breath mints to cover up the smell of alcohol

Missing prescription drugs— especially narcotics and mood stabilizers

Changes in conversations with friends, using “coded” language

Evidence of drug paraphernalia, such as pipes or rolling papers

Altered Moods Panic Dry Mouth
Nausea Inability to Concentrate
Reduced Coordination
Laughing for no Apparent Reason
Elevated Heart Rate
Slurred Speech Dizziness

What should you look for?

Talkativeness

Watery Eyes

Runny Nose

Headaches

Drowsiness

Needle Marks

Odors on Body, Clothing

Weight Loss

Pinpoint Pupils

Red Eyes

* These signs and symptoms are provided as a rough guide. The more you can identify, the greater the need for concern. Talk to your child and ask questions. Many of these signs and symptoms may also represent medical or mental issues that need to be followed up with a doctor.