

Key Stage 3 sessions: Overview and Learning Outcomes

Can you take it?

Alcohol

This session explores the many mixed messages and attitudes surrounding alcohol in our society. Through discussion, the use of interactive voting technology and drama, pupils consider how these attitudes can affect young people's decisions around drinking behaviours. Aspects of the law are also explored as well as government guidance on young people and alcohol. There is a strong emphasis on the social norms approach to drug education, which is that *most* young people do not drink at risky levels.

- Know and understand some of the health risks associated with alcohol use
- Understand that there are mixed messages about alcohol in society and consider how these conflicting messages can affect people's behaviour
- Understand that relatively few Y8 students have ever drunk alcohol (Social Norms education)
- Understand that alcohol as a drug is viewed differently to all other drugs in society

In the hot seat!

Tobacco

This session helps pupils to consider our changing attitudes towards smoking and the decreasing prevalence of tobacco use in our society. Recent national statistics show that smoking is an increasingly minority activity among young people. However those who do experiment are most likely to do so in the early years of secondary school – this programme is targeting that vital age-group. The use of interactive voting technology allows pupils to explore the law, physical effects of smoking, normative behaviour, and attitudes towards passive smoking. Through a hotseating drama, pupils challenge the motivations of the tobacco industry.

Key Learning Outcomes:

- Understand some of the influences on a person's decisions about smoking
- Understand that relatively few people smoke regularly (Social Norms education)
- Understand some of the social and financial costs of smoking
- Know and understand some of the physical effects of smoking on health

Welcome to Utopia

Illegal Drugs

This session explores the world of illegal drugs through the use of a fictional substance '*Utopia*'. This 'drug' has medical benefits but also clear risks, particularly for the under 25s.

Through discussion, the use of interactive voting technology and role play, pupils consider the different ways this new drug could be controlled and regulated in our society. Along the way they learn how drugs – medical, legal and illegal – are currently regulated. There is an emphasis on the fact that the recreational use of drugs (both legal

and illegal) is an increasingly minority activity, reinforcing the social norms approach to drug education.

Key Learning outcomes:

- Understand risks and effects of cannabis/illegal drug use
- Consider issues around drug use from different perspectives
- Understand the process of classifying illegal drugs
- Understand that illegal drug use is a minority activity (Social Norms education)