



Safeguarding Children Alcohol Ingestion

Does this child/young person need referral to social services?

This provides guidance to practitioners when considering social service referral when children and young people have consumed alcohol. Not all episodes of alcohol consumption require a referral. **CONSIDER**

Current Vulnerability **O**ccurrences **P**arenting **E**vidence of risky behaviour

Current Vulnerability

Are they alone?

e.g. no responsible peer support at the scene.

Vulnerable location and circumstances?

e.g. isolated, dangerous climate, time of day.

Is their safety compromised by their clinical condition?

e.g. level of consciousness, amount of alcohol consumed.

Parenting

Do the parents/carers show emotional warmth?

e.g. appropriate level of concern/warmth/love.

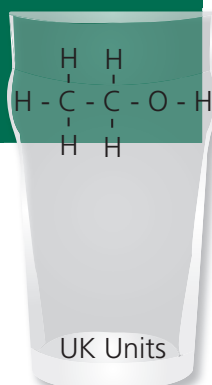
Are they contactable?

e.g. Mobile phone, through relatives etc.

Do they show appropriate concern?

e.g. By attending scene, attending hospital, taking care of the child at home.

Remember Looked After Children (LAC) should always be referred if they are at risk of harm as the local authority have a corporate parenting role.



Occurrences

Does this occur regularly?

e.g. is this a 'One off' or a rare occurrence?

Is it hazardous behaviour?

e.g. Signs of risky behaviour or endangering themselves or others.

Has there been previous problem behaviour?

e.g. Check history.

Evidence of Risky Behaviour

Are they staying out very late or over night?

Consider their age.

Are there indications of misuse of other substances?

e.g. drugs or solvents.

Are they associating with older people or controlling adults?

Remember trafficking or sexual exploitation.

Any indications of physical or sexual abuse?

Truancy? Drinking alcohol when they should be in school.

Are they participating in other self harming behaviours?

Including suicidal thoughts

Is the child or parent refusing appropriate medical care?