

Who Influences Me?

The clothes I wear?	How I behave in lessons?	The school I go to?	What I want to do when I leave school?
How I get to school?	Last pair of trainers I bought?	Films I watch?	Music I listen to?
TV programmes I watch?	Where I go after school?	Where I go at break times?	How I do my hair?
What I do at weekends?	The food I eat?	Places I go to with my friends?	How I spend my money?

What Do You Think?

	Agree	Disagree
1. Alcohol is more dangerous than cannabis		
2. Many young people take cannabis because they are bored		
3. Cannabis should be legalised and anyone over 16 should be able to buy and use it		
4. Cannabis use is fun		
5. Dealers who supply cannabis should be put in prison for a very long time		
6. Young people should say no to using cannabis		
7. Many people who use cannabis get into a lot of problems		
8. Any student found with cannabis in school should be expelled		
9. If drug education was better, fewer young people would use cannabis		
10. People have always used drugs like cannabis and they always will		
11. Young people who become addicted to cannabis usually feel really bad about themselves		
12. It is a good idea to have sniffer dogs in schools to see if any students have cannabis on them		
13. It is very hard to give up smoking cannabis once you get used to it		
14. Too many young people smoke too much cannabis		
15. Most young people who use cannabis have a good time and come to little harm		
16. Many adults are hypocrites when it comes to drugs like cannabis		
17. It is ok for a parent to search their child's bedroom for cannabis		
18. Testing people for drugs like cannabis is a good idea		
19. Many young people use cannabis to feel less anxious about having sex		
20. It is much safer to eat cannabis than to smoke it		

Images of Drug Use

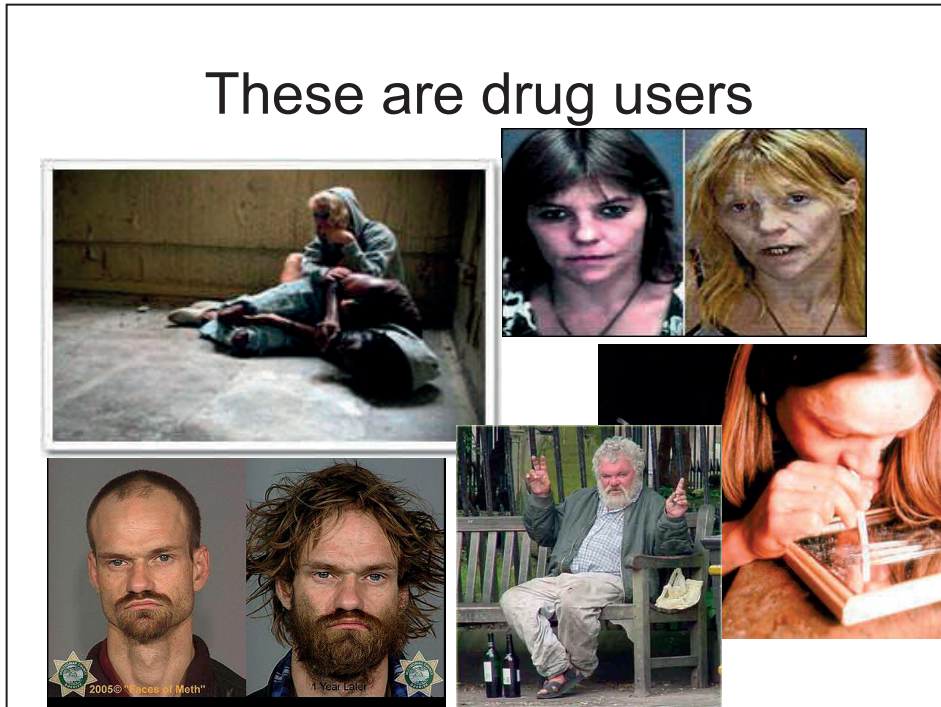
Are often misleading

Often only focus on drugs
as the problem – don't look
at the whole person

Are often very negative

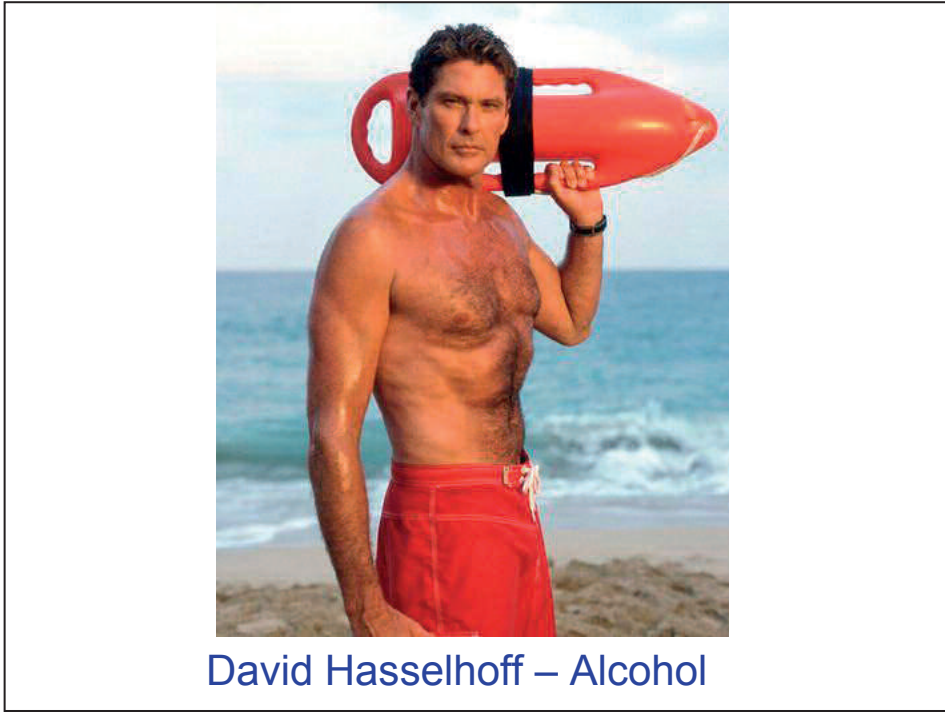
DRUG USE – TEACHERS' DISCUSSION NOTES

These are drug users



These pictures of well-known people are included to stimulate discussion about drug use, stereotyping media portrayal and public opinion.

We cannot hope to know all the personal details about these people, but it is useful to reflect on the issues their stories raise about drug use/misuse and how it is viewed in our society.



DAVID HASSLEHOFF – Alcohol

Former Baywatch star who portrayed an ultra-fit character. His daughter put a video of him, very drunk, on YouTube.



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Dot Cotton

DOT COTTON – Cigarettes

Actress in Eastenders – still smokes in the programme, which is one of the few places where it is still seen – this might be because she is not seen as a very attractive role model!



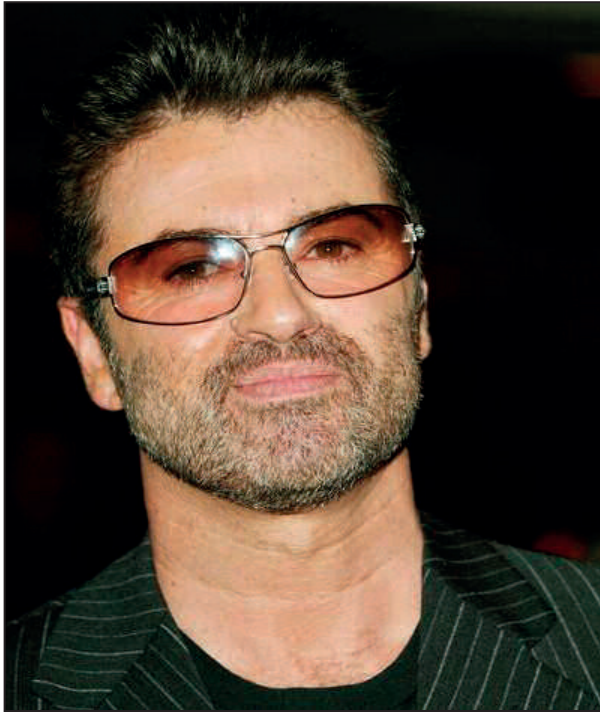
6

Eminem – rapper

I just went into such a dark place with everything, the drugs, my thoughts, everything.
And the more drugs I consumed ... the more depressed I became."

EMINEM – Vicodal (prescription opiate)

Well known Rapper who went into re-hab and produced an album of his experiences called 'Rehab'.



George Michael
- singer

7

GEORGE MICHAEL – Cannabis/Alcohol

Singer who has attracted a lot of attention by being arrested by the police for various drug related incidents. He received a prison sentence for one incident. He talks openly about his drug use. It hasn't appeared to affect his popularity – he seems to enjoy an image of 'naughty boy'.



Heath Ledger – actor
Died 2008 aged 29 years

8

HEATH LEDGER – Heroin/Prescription Medicines

Actor who, since his death, has received many accolades for his work. He was an ex-heroin user who was using prescription medicines. It is believed he died by choking while he was drunk.



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HITLER – Prescription Amphetamine

Hitler was given amphetamine injections by his doctor. Evidence is emerging that his behaviour could be psychotic and may be directly linked to the drugs he was using.



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Kate Moss
model

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KATE MOSS – Cocaine/Alcohol/Cigarettes

Top model who had a dramatic fall from grace because she was photographed snorting cocaine. She was in a high profile relationship with Pete Doherty, who was using crack and heroin. They were often photographed together in what appeared to be a co-dependent relationship based on their mutual drug use. Kate seemed to recover from the bad publicity and despite losing some big modelling contracts, appears to have become more popular than ever. Kate is the mother of a young child and issues about her ability to care for her daughter appear to have been treated more leniently than they might if she had not been so rich or well known.



Kerry
Katona

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KERRY KATONA – Cocaine/Alcohol

Singer/celebrity who has received a lot of attention about her bizarre behaviour and drug use, much of it unsympathetic.



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Amy Winehouse
singer

AMY WINEHOUSE – Crack/Heroin/Alcohol

Singer whose problematic drug use has dominated recent media attention, with extreme pictures of her looking unwell and damaged by her drug use. Her father has publicly discussed some of his attempts to help her. She has produced a song about attempts to get her into re-hab.



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Michael
Jackson
Died 2009
aged
50 years

MICHAEL JACKSON – Prescription Medicines

Singer who died recently after a heart attack brought on by his use of prescription medicines. This is a complicated personal story that includes a difficult relationship with his father, early stardom and extensive cosmetic surgery, charges of child abuse and bizarre public behaviour.



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Paul McCartney

PAUL MCCARTNEY – Cannabis/LSD

Singer who as a member of the Beatles, experimented with LSD. Long term cannabis user.



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Russell
Brand
Actor/
comedian

RUSSELL BRAND – Heroin

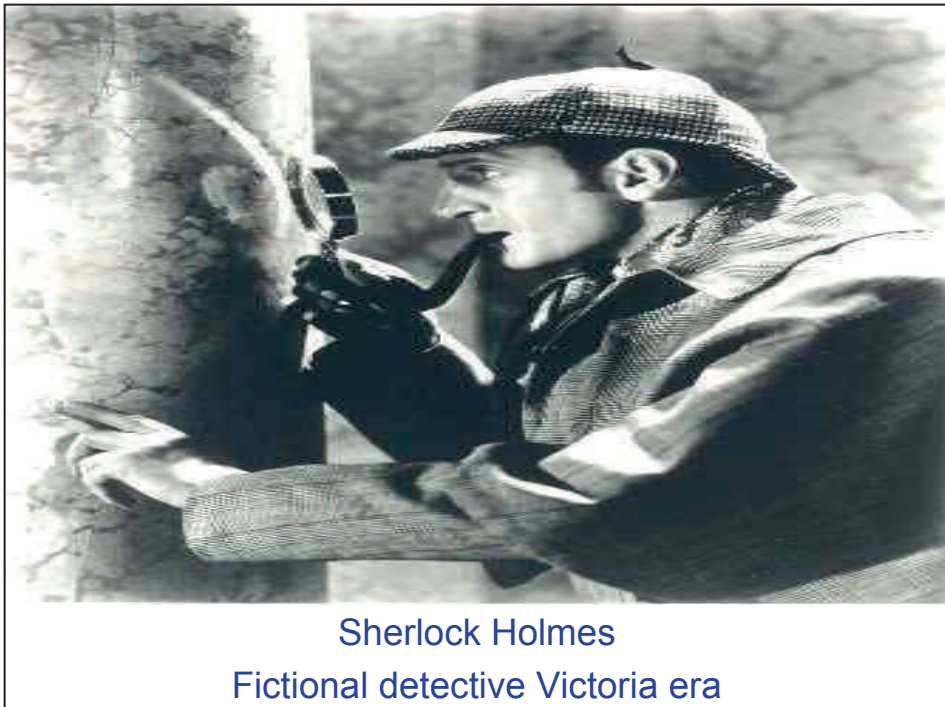
Comedian/celebrity – used to use heroin, but has since become drug free after re-hab.



Danielle Westbrook
Actor

DANIELLE WESTBROOK – Cocaine

Ex-Eastenders actress who became famous for being photographed with the middle section of her nose missing because of her extensive cocaine use.



Sherlock Holmes
Fictional detective Victoria era

SHERLOCK HOLMES – Cocaine/Opiates

Famous fictional detective who featured in books written by Arthur Conan Doyle. Many of the stories continue to be filmed today. In the novels, Sherlock Holmes regularly injected opiates and cocaine, to the disapproval of his companion Dr Watson. At the time the stories were written drug use of this kind was not illegal.



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Barrack Obama

“I was a kid making a bunch of negative choices based on stereotypes of what I thought a tough young man should be.”
 “Growing up to be a man involves taking responsibility. By the time I was 20, I was no longer engaged in any of this stuff.”

BARRACK OBAMA – Cocaine/Cannabis/Cigarettes

In his autobiography *Barrack Obama*, President of the USA, admits his drug use when he was younger. In the book, Obama reflects on the choices he made which finally led him to take the path he did to becoming the US President. When he entered the White House he was still smoking, but had promised his wife he would give up and used nicotine replacement therapy to help him.

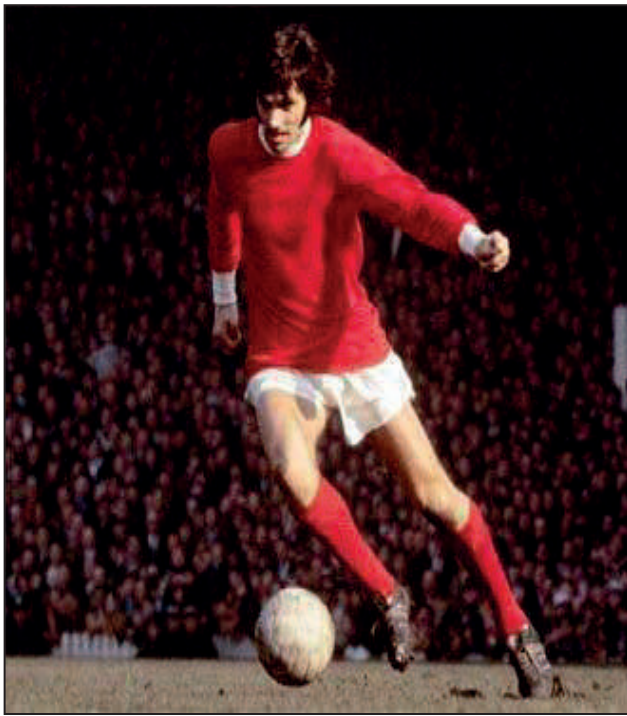


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Elton John - singer

ELTON JOHN – Cocaine and Alcohol

The singer has shared many details of his earlier life where he was using cocaine and the events that led him to becoming drug free. He was married in a civil partnership and has recently become a father.



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George Best
Died 2005
aged 59 years

GEORGE BEST – Alcohol

Famous footballer who had a lifetime battle with alcohol dependency. George had many attempts at re-hab and successfully managed to stop drinking for periods of his life, but he always eventually relapsed. Despite having a liver transplant, his alcohol dependency caused his death.



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Ozzy Osbourne

OZZY OSBOURNE – Everything!

Singer who has recently featured in a documentary series about his family. Has said of his drug use: "what I miss most is my mind....."



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Paula Yates
Died 2000, aged 41 years

PAULA YATES – Heroin (smoked)

Presenter and wife of Bob Geldof. When she left her husband for another man the media gave her a very difficult time. Her new partner died in mysterious circumstances that were drug related. She was smoking heroin and died after drowning in the bath. She was found by her young daughter who raised the alarm.

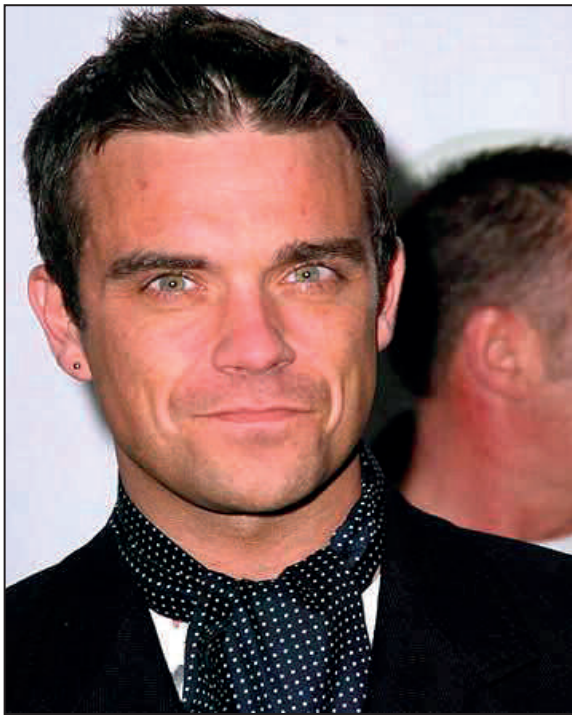


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George W
Bush
US
President

GEORGE W. BUSH – Alcohol

Past president of the US who had an alcohol dependency and was charged with drink driving.



Robbie Williams

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“Cannabis made me fat and depressed.”

“Weed, it’s such a lovely drug. But it doesn’t mix well with me at all.”

ROBBIE WILLIAMS – Alcohol/Caffeine/Cocaine/Prescription Medicines

Singer whose career started very well with the success of the band ‘Take That’. Difficulties in the band led to him leaving to pursue a solo career living in America. Reports appeared frequently of his drug use.



Lilly Allen Singer

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LILY ALLEN – Alcohol/Smoking/Ecstasy

Lily’s father is a well known comedian who has an alcohol dependency. As her success as a singer progressed it was accompanied by press reports of her drug use.



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Keith Richard
Rolling Stones

“I've never had a
problem with
drugs. I've had
problems with the
police.”

KEITH RICHARDS – Heroin/Alcohol/Cigarettes

Guitarist with The Rolling Stones whose lifetime of drug use has gained him notoriety.

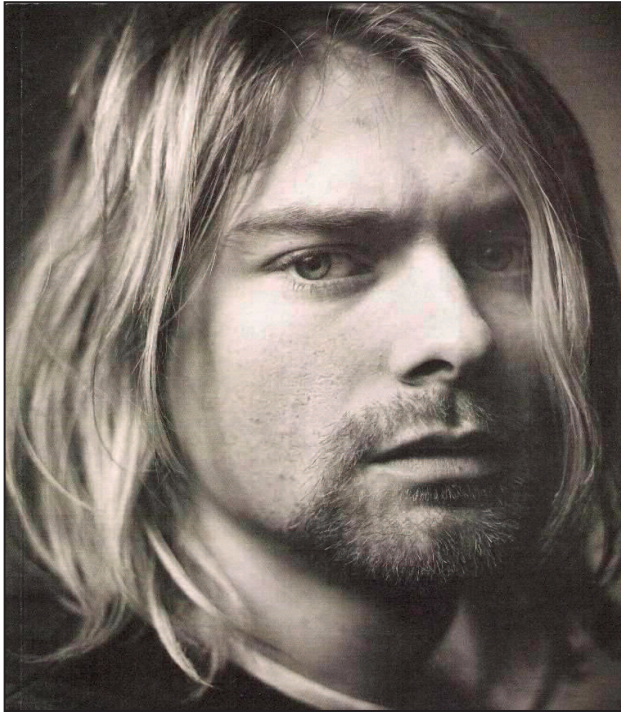


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Pete Doherty
Singer

PETE DOHERTY – Heroin/Crack/Cocaine/Alcohol/Cigarettes

Singer whose drug use appears to be chaotic/problematic at times. He has received many drug related convictions. He has attempted different forms of re-hab, but has relapsed every time.



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Kurt Cobain
died 1994
(suicide)

KURT COBAIN – Heroin

Singer who has achieved legendary fame after he shot himself. His heroin use, mental health issues and a co-dependent relationship with his drug using partner appeared to contribute to his death.



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Queen
Victoria

QUEEN VICTORIA – Opiates/Cannabis

Queen Victoria was prescribed these drugs by her doctor to ease her period pains and help her during childbirth.