

#### WHAT ARE CANNABIS EDIBLES?

Laced with a mood altering ingredient from cannabis, cannabis edibles are an illegal and really strong 'sweet' aimed at young people/teenagers. They come in the form of sweets, chocolate and drinks. Although cannabis edibles contain an element of cannabis, they do not have the smell or appearance of cannabis. Instead, they look and smell like a shop bought item but are much stronger than other cannabis products.

### PURCHASE AND SUPPLY

Due to being illegal in the UK, cannabis edibles are generally purchased through networks such as social media outlets including TikTok, Snapchat, and Instagram. It is because of these modern communication methods for supply and purchase, young people are able to access cannabis edibles at the touch of a button.



#### **CAN YOU IDENTIFY CANNABIS EDIBLES?**

Cannabis edibles can be difficult to identify. Sometimes the packaging differs slightly from shop bought items. Differences are in the form of appearance, spelling or poor quality packaging. Below are examples of shop bought items and how they compare to cannabis edibles.

### Shop bought items





Change of name Removal of additional logos Different font for text





Change of name Removal of additional text Amended logo





Change of logo Removal of additional text Change of colour scheme





Small change to title Decreased package quality Details removed





Change in colour scheme Change of package type Poor quality packaging



#### THE EFFECTS OF CANNABIS EDIBLES

Cannabis edibles are much stronger than other cannabis products. Unlike smoked cannabis, swallowed cannabis is much easier to be consumed but takes longer to take effect. Young people are likely to eat too many due to the delayed effect. Eating one sweet is equivalent to smoking one cannabis joint.



**Short term effects** 

**Dry mouth** 

Comparison point	Cannabis edibles	Cannabis joint
THC Strength	10-15mg per sweet	12mg
Time of impact	30-60 minutes	10-15 seconds
Length of impact	Up to three hours	1-2 hours



Long term effects

**Paranoia** 

Nausea

Anxiety

**Hallucinations** 

Disorientation, confusion

Dry, red eyes

**Changes** in visual perception Increased appetite and thirst

**Changes in** perception of time

**Changes in** perception of time

**Dependency** 

Longer term increased anxiety

Loss of short-term memory

Lack of motivation

Increased risk of developing mental health illness

Poor educational outcome

**Poor sleep** 

**Problems with** thinking and understanding



# My child has taken cannabis edibles. WHAT DO I DO?

Stay calm and try not to panic.
Assess the situation and gather the facts.

#### What information would be good to know?

It may not always be possible but there are pieces of information which would be beneficial to know if medical professionals are required. This information includes:

- 1 Details of the child (age, name, medical history etc.)
- 2 What actually happened? Did the child digest cannabis edibles or is it believed to have happened?
- 3 What type of edible were they?
- 4 Retain any packaging
- 5 When were the edibles consumed?
- 6 Has your child consumed any other substances/alcohol?

Is the child conscious and responsive but not themselves?

If the chid is conscious and responsive but not themselves as a result of cannabis edibles, gather the facts and **telephone 111 for advice and additional information**.

Is the child coherent, conscious and responsive?

If the child is stable, speak to your child at an appropriate time.



If the family pet accidentally eats cannabis edibles seek veterinary treatment.



Is speech slurred?

Is the pulse rate elevated?

Are they disorientated, unresponsive or unconscious?

Call 999 without delay.

If a person is unconscious but breathing and has no other life-threatening conditions, they should be placed in the recovery position following the 9 steps below:

- 1 With the person lying on their back, kneel on the floor at their side.
- 2 Extend the arm nearest you at a right angle to their body with their palm facing up.
- 3 Take their other arm and fold it so the back of their hand rests on the cheek closest to you, and hold it in place.
- 4 Use your free hand to bend the person's knee farthest from you to a right angle.
- **5** Carefully roll the person onto their side by pulling on the bent knee.
- **6** Ensure the bent arm is supporting the head.
- **7** Open their airway by gently tilting their head back and lifting their chin.
- 8 Check that nothing is blocking their airway.
- Stay with the person and monitor their condition until help arrives

  Hand under chin to keep mouth open

  Leg bent to

  Arm bent to

support position

prevent rolling over

## For further information or support regarding drugs and alcohol, please contact your local service:

North Lincolnshire

DELTA Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service

01724 298 528

North East Lincolnshire

We Are With You

01472 806 890

■ northeastlincsadmin@wearewithyou.org.uk

Hull

ReFresh

- 01482 331 059
- refresh@hullcc.gov.uk
- www.refreshhull.org.uk

East Riding of Yorkshire

Young People's **Drug and Alcohol Service** 

- **\** 01482 336 675
- info@ads-uk.org

If you think that
someone is supplying
cannabis edibles in your
local area please contact
Humberside Police on 101 or visit
www.humberside.police.uk

If you prefer to remain anonymous contact

CrimeStoppers
on 0800 555 111



Serving our communities to make them safer and stronger







