

Signs your teen is doing drugs

- Money missing from your purse or wallet
- Use of incense, room deodorizer or excessive perfumes and cologne
- Excessive use of mints, mouth washes and gum
- Eye drops to reduce redness
- Missing medications (over the counter as well as prescription)
- Decline in academic performance
- Personality changes
- Withdrawal and decreased interaction with good friends
- New circle of friends
- Over the counter materials such as computer duster, nail polish or nail polish remover, white out, hairsprays or other inhalants found with their belongings
- Excessive sleeping
- Weight loss or decline in eating
- Increased appetite
- Drug paraphernalia such as pipes, bags of seeds, rolling papers, empty bottles, baggies, etc.
- Your child's bedroom is off limits

Common Drugs Being Abused in Petaluma

Alcohol—Top used drug of choice, binge drinking makes this especially disturbing.

Marijuana—Dabbing and vaping allows for dangerously high amounts of THC to get to the brain.

Adderall—Prescription drug that is extremely dangerous when used recreationally, gives a high like cocaine, is being used to stay up to study, is a diet aide, is being crushed and snorted as well as taken in its pill form. Very widely used among high school and college age students. This drug comes up under meth on a panel drug test.

Xanax—This is a huge drug here in Petaluma. Why? Because it has no smell and kids can hide it and take it easily. This is taken frequently before dances because students know the schools use a breathalyzer or alcohol detector.

Ecstasy, Molly, MDMA—Is a psychoactive drug used primarily as a recreational drug. Desired effects include increased empathy, euphoria, and heightened sensations. Teens mix this drug with alcohol which makes it even more lethal.

Cocaine, Meth—Yes, these drugs are here in Petaluma and being used by teens and young adults.

Vicodin, Norco, Oxycontin & Heroin— All of these drugs are being used around campuses here in Petaluma and because of these and other prescription pills being taken by the handfuls at parties with alcohol, it is extremely dangerous. When prescription pills, and other drugs are being taken regularly, they get very expensive because of the amount you are having to take to get high, so buying heroin is much cheaper.

Spice or K2—Also known as synthetic cannabis, fake pot, synthetic marijuana, legal weed, herbal incense and potpourri. This is easily found at the local head shops because, well, it's incense. This is so extremely dangerous for obvious reasons, but kids are doing it and it doesn't show up on a standard drug panel test.

Inhalants—Sniffing the fumes of glue, spray paint, shoe shine spray, dust off, hair spray, fabric protector, Freon, rubbing alcohol, white out, and cooking spray.

Cough syrup or Cough & Cold Tablets—containing Dextromethorphan like Robitussin, Coricidin or Delsym are also know as CCC, Skittles, velvet, kiddie shot, Orange Crush, So if you see empty packages under beds or buried in the garbage don't ignore them.

Common Places Teens Hide Drugs

- Inside writing utensils
- Inside soda cans and candy wrappers and containers
- Inside personal hygiene and makeup tubes and containers
- Vehicles and backpacks
- Bathroom toilets and heater vents and electrical outlets
- Special secret compartment belt buckles and phone cases
- Posters and wall hangings
- Books and other common items that they can make secret compartments
- Mattresses and toys

Petaluma Parents Against Drugs

is a resource to parents as well as students who may be concerned about an issue or just want someone they can trust to talk to. Contact us petalumaparentsagainstdrugs@yahoo.com or message us on our Facebook page search Petaluma Parents Against Drugs .