Year 7-8 Drug education knowledge organiser

Subject-specific vocabulary		
Substance	This generic term includes alcohol and other drugs that may be legal or illegal.	
Controlled substance	Drugs for which the manufacture, possession or use is regulated by the government.	
Medicines	A drug or remedy that may be prescribed by a health professional or purchased over-the counter.	
Side effects	An effect of a drug (including medicines) that is additional to its intended effect.	
Dependency	A state in which a person relies upon a substance to feel or function as normal, this can be physical and/or psychological.	
Cessation	The process of reducing and stopping the use of a substance. This may be done independently or with the support of others.	

Substance-specific information

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Ca	H۲	ine

- a stimulant drug often found in drinks such as tea, coffee, soft drinks and energy drinks
- it is advised that children should only consume caffeine in moderation
- caffeine is not necessary for a healthy, balanced diet
- daily intake up to 3mg/kg of body weight does not raise safety concerns

Alcohol

- found in drinks such as beer, wine and spirits
- · amounts of alcohol are measured in units
- an alcohol-free childhood is the healthiest option
- risks include accidents or judgement errors; cancers; high blood pressure; harms to relationships
- the law states that alcohol cannot be sold to under-18s

Nicotine and tobacco

- nicotine is an addictive substance found in tobacco and other products such as vapes (e-cigarettes)
- tobacco is used in cigarettes, pipes, cigars, chewing tobacco and shisha
- risks include cancers; heart attack; stroke; reduced fertility
- the law states that nicotine and tobacco products cannot be sold to under-18s

Influences on decision-making

Examples of influences

- own perceptions, attitudes and beliefs
- curiosity or thrill-seeking
- whether actions fit with one's own values or goals
- the attitudes and actions of friends, role models and celebrities
- family or community religious/cultural beliefs and expectations
- social and cultural norms

Strategies for managing peer influence

- assertive refusal with or without providing a further reason
- · using humour to deflect from the situation
- · removing oneself from the situation
- using an excuse to avoid using a substance
- · telling a 'white lie'
- discussing intentions with a trusted friend so they can support in pressurised situations
- planning with family members to help by coming to pick them up if away from home
- organising alcohol-free social events
- blocking and reporting unwanted approaches on social media
- unfollowing and reporting accounts with unwanted content on social media

External support services		
FRANK	talktofrank.com 03001236600 Information, help and advice about drugs including information on local support services	
Better Health – Quit Smoking	https://www.nhs.uk/better- health/quit-smoking/ NHS smoking cessation support service	
Nacoa	nacoa.org.uk 08003583456 Information and support for anyone affected by a parent's drinking	
Childline	childline.org.uk 0800 1111 Confidential support service CALLS DO NOT APPEAR ON PHONE BILL	