

Aged 14 to 17?

Your drug test and what it means

**You have been
charged with a crime
that is sometimes
linked to drugs.**

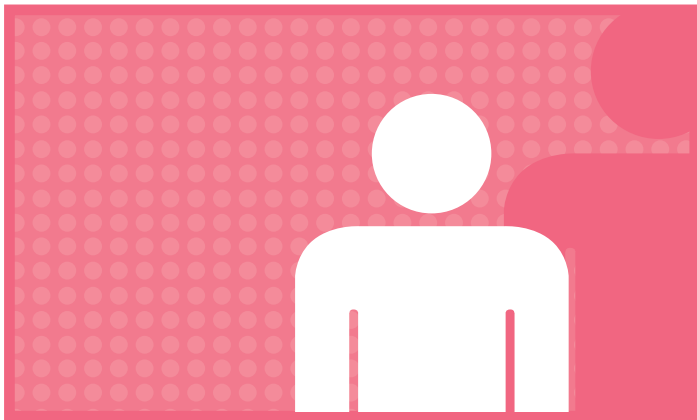
Now you have been asked to take a drug test. This is so that we can find out if you need help.

This leaflet explains what is going to happen.



About the test

- You will be tested in the police station you've been charged in.
- The test doesn't hurt. It only takes a few minutes.
- We will take some spit from your mouth by holding a plastic stick in your mouth for a few seconds.
- We will test the spit to see if you have recently taken heroin, crack or cocaine.



Who is at the test?

If you're aged 14 to 16, you must have an adult with you when you take the test.

This could be your mum, dad or carer. We have to tell them that you are taking a test. Or it could be another adult, like a social worker. They can give you advice about the test.

If you are 17, you don't need to have an adult with you. We don't have to tell your mum, dad or carer that you are taking a test. But if you want to talk to someone, you can speak to a youth support worker.

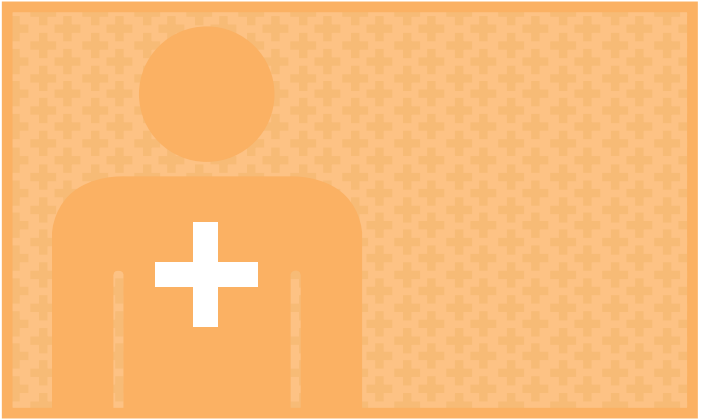


What is the test used for?

The test is used to get you help if you need it.

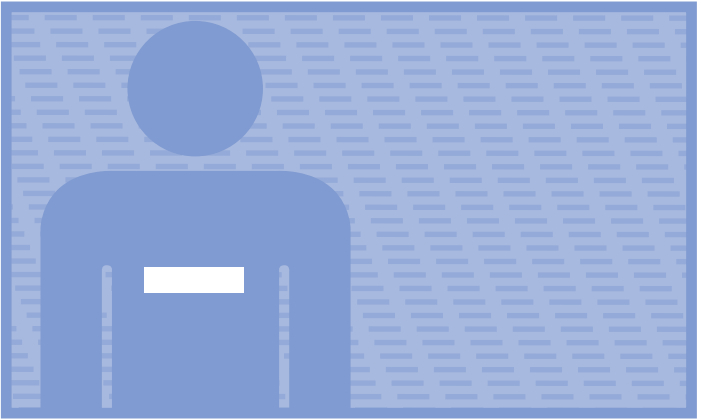
We won't charge you with having taken drugs.

We won't use the fact that you have taken drugs as evidence for the crime you are charged with.



If we find drugs in your spit

- This means that you have used heroin, cocaine or crack recently.
- **A youth support worker** (sometimes called an arrest referral worker) will try to talk to you about getting help or about any other problems.
- We will tell the courts. It could affect the sentence you are given if you are found guilty of the offence you have been charged with. The courts may decide to help you get treatment.



If we don't find drugs in your spit

- This can mean that you don't use heroin, crack or cocaine. Or it can mean that you haven't used them recently.
- You can still see a youth support worker, if you want to.
- They can help you get treatment and support. You can also speak to them about any other problems.



Do you have to take the test?

It is against the law to say no to a drug test.

You can be charged if you do this.

This means that you could be fined.
Or you could be given a sentence.



Who can you talk to?

- Youth support workers are here to help you. You can talk to them about anything at all.
- This could be problems with drugs or alcohol. Or it could be other problems you are having, like bullying or family problems.
- Youth support workers don't work for the police. They won't tell the police what you talk about – unless they think you are in danger.

**If you want to talk about
drugs, you can call Frank
on 0800 77 66 00.**

FRANK

0800 77 66 00 talktofrank.com

Friendly, confidential drugs advice

