

Awareness of the signs and symptoms of drug use / abuse can act as a guide. When used in addition to awareness of previous behaviors and academic performance, these signs and symptoms may assist parents, teachers and staff in the appropriate identification of early use issues.

- An increase in disciplinary actions
- Sudden drop or gradual lowering in grades and achievement levels (reasons unclear)
- Sudden academic failure
- Skipping classes or entire days
- Frequent visits to nurse for various complaints
- Drop out of sports and other extra-curricular activities
- Disrespect / defiance toward teachers, rules and regulations
- Frequent suspensions / expulsions
- Present in classroom but inattentive
- Restlessness, easily upset, anxiety, irritability, agitation
- Change in hygiene, using same clothes frequently
- Withdrawal from peers and staff
- Undisciplined; doesn't get things done on time or as agreed
- Sometimes inappropriately happy or sad
- Sleeping in class, unable to sleep at night
- Wandering in hallways or school grounds• Changes in speech pattern, slurred / slowed speech, difficulty with speaking, repetitive speech, stumbling
- Odor of chemicals, marijuana or alcohol on clothing, brown stained finger tips
- Burns on hands and/or clothing
- Alcohol hangover; headache, vomiting
- Redness around nasal areas, runny nose, substance residue around mouth
- Facial itching, flushed face
- Dilated pupils, pinpoint pupils