

Read the text about different ways of dealing with alcohol-related problems in England. First decide whether the statements (1-9) are true (T) or false (F) and put a cross (☒) in the correct box on the answer sheet. Then identify the sentence in the text which supports your decision. Write the first 4 words of this sentence in the space provided. There may be more than one correct answer; write down only one. The first one (0) has been done for you.

## Drinking at an early age

Alcohol is part of life for children and young people growing up in the North East and a recent national survey showed that children in the region drink alcohol at younger ages and in greater quantities than their peers anywhere else in the country.

However, efforts by frontline organisations have been successful in helping to reduce the number of youngsters tempted to drink. Recent studies show the overall number of children and young people drinking alcohol has reduced since 1995.

To further this success a number of events will be taking place to help raise awareness across the region.

Drop-in sessions will be running to help people of all ages understand units and levels of safer levels of consumption.

Also posters and leaflets with information, as well as a confidential helpline number have been distributed to accident and emergency departments and to youth facilities.

Information will also be available from a stall at North Tyneside Council, The Quadrant, Silverlink.

Balance, the North East of England's alcohol office, is working with schools in Gateshead and Newcastle to produce a large-scale artwork to demonstrate the impact that alcohol advertising has on children and young people.

The organisation is working with a local artist who will be undertaking art sessions with children to see what, if anything, they recall from alcohol adverts and using art to capture the results.

Acts, a multi-agency partnership which involves Newcastle Primary Care Trust, GPs, hospitals, mental health services and the voluntary sector as well as Sub 21 – which targets young people in North Tyneside – has been playing a vital part in raising awareness of the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption.

Acts staff currently work with people in settings including schools, communities and hospitals, to understand their thoughts, feelings and behaviour towards alcohol and to offer early intervention, screening and advice.

Lynda Seery, alcohol public health lead for NHS North of Tyne said: "We aim to use Alcohol Awareness Week to encourage young people to enter into safer recreational activities by raising their knowledge of how drinking can damage their health.

"Acts aims to promote a safe, sensible drinking culture and ensure that everyone with an alcohol problem is able to access the treatment and support they need and this includes young people.

"NHS North of Tyne has had a significant impact on the levels of binge drinking across the region through joint working and a three-pronged approach of prevention, early intervention and working in partnership with Northumbria Police and local councils to address the issues of licensing.

“We want to strengthen people’s understanding about their relationship with alcohol; the effect it has on them and services they can access for help with alcohol-related issues such as self-harming and social exclusion.”

Last year Newcastle had the second highest level of alcohol-related hospital admissions, second only to Liverpool, but the roll-out of Acts from Newcastle to North Tyneside and Northumberland, has been successful in getting the message across.

As part of the implementation, more staff received intervention and advice training across health, social care and education while awareness of the service was promoted through local involvement networks, overview scrutiny committees, community and voluntary sector groups, and MPs.

But the efforts continue. The results of a survey of 1,000 residents throughout the North of Tyne area conducted by Balance, discovered:

More than eight in 10 of the region’s parents said they had not purchased alcohol for their children aged 17 and under.

Three in five said they had never given alcohol to their children, aged 17 or under.

The survey reported the common consensus of respondents who said that children and young people drinking alcohol is most definitely unacceptable, with 80% agreeing that young people between the ages of 13 and 15 shouldn’t be drinking.

The survey also revealed that adults misusing alcohol around children is frowned upon – with four in five agreeing that adults should never drink too much in front of children.

0	Attempts to prevent young people from drinking have had a positive effect.
1	A series of activities will be organised to increase people’s understanding.
2	There is a phone number people can call if they need help with alcohol problems.
3	School children will make a film that shows the effects of alcohol abuse.
4	A number of hospitals are run by Acts.
5	Health authorities are trying to motivate young people into taking up more harmless types of entertainment.
6	The main objective of Acts is to restrict the availability of alcohol.
7	It is important to the NHS that people become more conscious of how they deal with alcohol.
8	Due to financial cuts it has not been possible to offer more support to staff.
9	There is a strong feeling that youngsters may be allowed to drink on certain occasions.

## Drinking at an early age

	T	F	First four words
0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>However, efforts by frontline</i>
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Von der  
Lehrperson  
auszufüllen

richtig falsch

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