

# Least Dangerous / Most Dangerous

## To trigger discussions about drug dangers

1. Put pupils in to groups or pairs
  - ⇒ Give each group a set of the drugs (on card or paper)
  - ⇒ Tell them they're going to place the drugs in the order of most to least dangerous.
  - ⇒ Give them about 10 minutes to discuss this.
  
2. Brainstorm as a whole class
  - ⇒ Which did they think was most / least dangerous and why?
  - ⇒ Talk about the different criteria for "dangerous": most deaths (tobacco approx 110, 000 per year, alcohol about 30,000 per year alcohol related, heroin about 500 per year, ecstasy 1.5 deaths every two months); legal situation (class As); harmful to community/families; violence; drinking/drug-taking and alcohol; sexual risks; crime etc.,
  - ⇒ Say it will therefore vary according to which criterion we use:
    - Dangerous to self/death
    - Most dangerous to actually use
    - Causes most crime
    - Causes most violence
    - Causes most risk-taking activities
    - Most dangerous to society
  
3. Re-order the cards
  - ⇒ For each of the categories brainstormed above ask pupils to order the cards – least / most dangerous
  - ⇒ Ask them to write the list for each criterion and a brief reason for their decision

**Cannabis**

**Heroin**

**Alcohol**

**Cocaine**

**Ecstasy**

**Solvents**

**Cigarettes**

**Legal Highs**

**Poppers**

**Steroids**

**Ketamine**

**Caffeine**

**Amphetamines**

**Magic  
Mushrooms**

**Prescription  
painkillers**

# Drug Law Handout

Correct at February 2011

## Class A:

These include, cocaine and crack (a form of cocaine), ecstasy, heroin, LSD, methadone, methamphetamine (crystal meth), magic mushrooms containing ester of psilocin and any Class B drug which is injected.

## Class B:

These include amphetamine (not methamphetamine), barbiturates, mephadrone, codeine and cannabis.

## Class C:

These include anabolic steroids and minor tranquillisers.

**Maximum penalties under the Misuse of Drugs Act are as follows:**

Drug class	Possession	Supply
Class A	7 years + fine	Life + fine
Class B	5 years + fine	14 years + fine
Class C	2 years + fine	14 years + fine

## Alcohol:

Is not illegal for an over 5 year old to consume away from licensed premises. It is an offence for a vendor to knowingly sell to an under 18 year old. A 14 year old can go into a pub alone but not consume alcohol. A 16 year old can buy and consume beer, port, cider or perry (but not spirits) in a pub if having a meal in an area set aside for this purpose. In some areas there are by laws restricting drinking of alcohol on the streets at any age. Police also have powers to confiscate alcohol from under 18s who drink in public places.

## Tobacco:

It is not an offence for people of any age to use cigarettes or other tobacco products. It is an offence for a vendor to sell tobacco products to someone they know to be under 18 years old. Since 1st July 2007 smoking in public places has been banned in the UK.

For further information: <http://www.drugscope.org.uk/resources/faqs/faqpages/what-are-the-uk-drug-laws.htm>