



As of the first of October, The Matthew Project Under18 service has been renamed 'Unity'.

The Matthew Project: Unity is a Drug and Alcohol Service for children, young people and their families across Norfolk.

Unity will be delivering two new services: For young people using substances themselves and for those affected by someone else's substance misuse.

- Substance use amongst young people in Norfolk is in line with national averages, with alcohol being the most commonly used substance, followed by cannabis.
- 80% of young people in service are being supported for problems with either alcohol or with cannabis or both.
- The next most common drugs young people are being supported for are Cocaine, Amphetamine, Ketamine and MDMA.
- On average young people first tried substances at the age of 14.

Unity provides: Help and support children and young people around drugs and alcohol at home, school or any safe place; and for those affected by someone they know using drugs and alcohol.

Give information about drugs and alcohol, and help with drug and alcohol related health matters; and arrange a safe place for counselling.

Provide training and advice for professionals working with children and young people.

Deliver assemblies about the Matthew Project: Unity in schools and other learning places.

Deliver outreach using The Matthew Project (Voicebox) caravan at schools, parks and car parks in the community.

CONTACT US:

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Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/TMPYoungPeople](https://www.facebook.com/TMPYoungPeople)

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The Need for an Affected Others Service:

Within the previous Under18 service, 30% were receiving support due someone else's substance misuse.

58% of adults in alcohol treatment are parents to children aged under 18.

Norfolk 8% of children (5-15 years old) are young carers, and 7% of young carers care because of parental substance misuse.

(N-DAP (2013))



Unity: Affected others service will be delivered in partnership with Norfolk Carers Support:

Diversionary activities will be a core component, giving children and young people the opportunity to participate in a wide range of leisure and cultural activities. These activities will be age and developmentally appropriate, enabling children and young people to gain confidence, self-esteem, develop new skills and to have fun.

Confidentiality

We will only share information about young people when we think that they or someone else is at risk of harm. We will talk to young people about what will happen to the information that is given. We will listen without judging and explain our confidentiality policy.