

Information ahead of High School Graduation 2018

Summer is on the way and soon many young people will graduate from high school. Graduation is often a great experience and for some, it's a memory of life. Some teenagers celebrate school graduation with their loved ones, others at various events. Unfortunately, there are also risks associated with graduation. We want to alert you as a parent to these risks and inform you of where you can find support and assistance if you need it.

Many young people choose to celebrate their graduation outdoors at various locations in Malmö, mostly on the beaches and in the city's parks. Some private organisers will arrange graduation parties/nightclubs for young people aged 16 and over. For more information on events organised for young people in connection with high school graduation, please contact Socialarbetare för ungdomar - SFU ("Social workers for Young People").

Alcohol and drugs may be found among young people during high school graduation celebrations. In recent years, several young people have been heavily intoxicated and some have needed help to get home. Young people may drink alcohol and use drugs for a variety of reasons.

Peer pressure and wanting to fit in are major factors. Using drugs is illegal and always involves risks. Drinking alcohol or using drugs leaves young people much more vulnerable to robbery, violent crime, sexual offences and accidents.

It's easy for young people to obtain alcohol and drugs, many have phone contact with dealers who can provide them with alcohol and in some cases drugs. If you see anyone selling alcohol or drugs to young people – call the police!

Parents' attitudes and approaches – you're the most important influence!

As a parent, you are the most important person in your teenager's life and it is you as a parent who has the greatest influence on your teenager. As a parent, you can't teach your teenager how to drink alcohol by offering it at home, the only thing you're teaching them then is to drink alcohol. Studies show that those young people who have parents with a positive attitude towards drinking habits drink to excess more often. A restrictive attitude to habitual drinking makes a difference.

Advice to you as a parent:

- It is a criminal offence to buy or give alcohol to young people under 20 years of age.
- Talk to your teenager about alcohol and drugs. Not all teenagers drink alcohol or use drugs, what attitude does your teenager have?
- Talk with other parents - share information and support each other.
- By accompanying your teenager to where the party will take place, staying in contact with them during the night and picking them up at the end of the party, you can make sure your teenager comes home safely.
- When you receive information about where a party or a celebration in a public space will be held, we at SFU and the Police would be grateful if you share this information with us! Information from you is very helpful in our preventive work, so that your teenager can stay as safe and secure as possible.



For information, support and assistance:

www.polisen.se

The police are grateful for information regarding alcohol and drug dealing and use, and where young people will gather to celebrate graduation. You can call anonymously!

114 14 - Then press 2 to give information

www.malmo.se/socialarbetareforungdomar

Socialarbetare för ungdomar (SFU) is a social service working with outreach and prevention with young people aged 12-21 in central Malmö. Parents can call us with questions about alcohol and young people's situations, to give information about where young people will gather during high school graduation and if you are worried about your teenager.

040 – 34 39 95, 070 – 600 35 36

www.malmo.se

Social services in your city. 040 - 34 10 00

www.malmo.se/skolor

Student health services at your teenager's school. 040 – 34 10 00

www.malmo.se/mariamalmo

Maria Malmö is an outpatient reception for people under the age of 25 who have alcohol or drug problems, and their relatives. You can ask questions about alcohol and drugs here.

040 - 33 71 70

www.malmo.se/faltgruppencentrum

Fältgruppen Malmö ("Malmö Field Group") is part of the municipal recreational activities in the city of Malmö and performs outreach work with young people aged 13-17 years.

040 – 34 25 39

www.lund.se

Fältgruppen i Lunds Kommun ("Lund County Field Group") works to offer initiatives for young people in need, to improve their well-being. You can follow the group on Facebook: Fältgruppen Lund

046 – 35 52 12

www.tänkom.nu

The State Public Health Institute in cooperation with the Police, Systembolaget, IOGT-NTO and county administrative boards and municipalities in Sweden. Here you can find facts, tips and supporting arguments.

www.can.se

The Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAN). CAN's mission is to spread information about alcohol and drugs.

www.tonarsparloren.se

Tonårsparlören - Questions and answers about young people and alcohol.

