

# CANNABIS EDIBLES

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# WHAT ARE THEY?



- Cannabis edibles are basically foods that have been infused with THC (the psychoactive part of cannabis).
- Traditionally edibles would be baked from home - cannabis bud would be cooked into butter/oil, the butter/oil would then be used in baking.
- However, edibles now come in different forms, often seen as sweets but also crisps and drinks. They can be bought online and there are even videos on social media that show the viewer how to make edibles from home.
- Because they contain **THC** they are a **Class B drug** under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

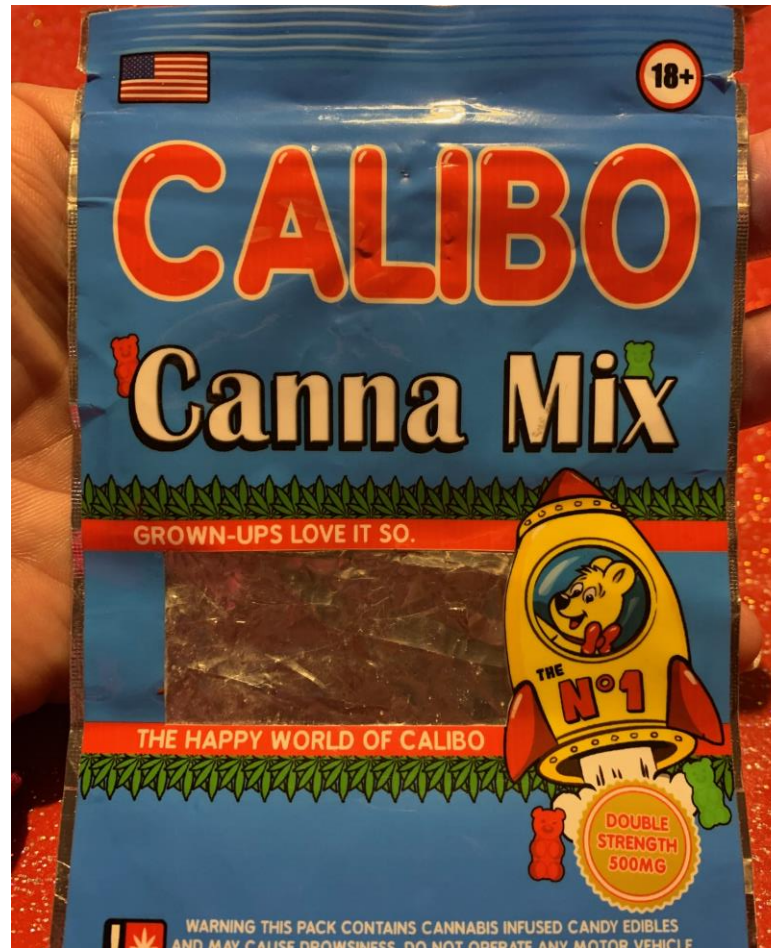


# WHO USES THEM?

- Brightly coloured packaging
- Often with a spin on popular brand names.
- Wide ranging audience, but mainly aims to target a younger age bracket.

Sounds familiar?.....

.....think legal highs.



# ARE THEY DANGEROUS?

- **YES!**
- We have had a number of children/young people hospitalised in West Yorkshire.
- This is because the edibles contain large amounts of THC!
- The way that these drugs are packaged make them seem juvenile and are very attractive to young people

## Effects include:

- Loss of Coordination
- Hallucinations
- Nausea/vomiting
- Lethargy, collapse or loss of consciousness
- Cardiovascular – increased heart rate

Despite people being hospitalised after using these drugs **it is highly unlikely that they will cause a death**, unless mixed with other illicit drugs.



# HOW STRONG ARE THEY REALLY?

## “They’re just sweets?”

- You will see many of the edibles packages advertising the THC contents as 600mg – which is the equivalent of smoking 50 joints!
- However, the sweets have been found to contain more THC than advertised, making overdose even more likely.
- One sweet (on average) contains 10-15mg – **an average joint contains 12mg.**
- For a beginner with very low tolerance unpleasant effects could be experienced at around 5-10mg of THC. (which is less than 1 edible sweet)
- Ingesting cannabis edibles will take around half hour to take effect, whereas smoking cannabis can take around 15 seconds.
- The impact of edibles is also slightly longer taking 3 hours for the effects to wear off, whereas smoking cannabis will take around an hour or 2.

# WHERE CAN THEY BE BOUGHT?

- Cost around £5-£15 per packet of “gummies”/Nerd ropes – also some suppliers have “offers” of 2 packets for £10.
- Mainly Social media – TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook
- Dealers are advertising their ‘products’ by adding photos and videos to their ‘stories’, which is then shared by friends
- TikTok/Social Media platforms do censor ‘inappropriate content’ but there are loopholes which can be exploited.
- They can also be bought through friends/Peers/Dealers
- There are also videos available on social media that show viewers how to make cannabis edibles. See video opposite.



#gummies



# #EDIBLES

- TikiTok video showing finished product for sale.
- Note spin on popular brand names.
- Bright packaging – Haribo Bear image on product: If spotted by young child they would associate image with actual Haribo sweets.
- This is part of the danger with the marketing of these products.



# WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING?

- We should be providing words of advice to anyone found in possession of them, as well as confiscating the product (If possible)
- Further intervention should be done with the rest of the school, if found in school, to raise awareness and educate children about the dangers of these drugs.
- Work alongside child/ren, Schools, Police, Youth Outreach Groups, Partner Agencies to find out who is supplying children with these products.







# ANY QUESTIONS?

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