The facts about The law and drugs

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What drugs are legal?

In the UK it is legal to:

- drink alcohol, even if it is against your religion. But shops cannot sell alcohol to people who are under 18;
- smoke tobacco. But shops cannot sell tobacco to people who are under 16.

What drugs are illegal?

Heroin, ecstasy, cannabis, crack and amphetamines are all illegal.

It is against the law to:

- have these drugs on you (for example in your pockets) or in your house;
- sell these drugs to other people;
- give these drugs to other people, even friends.

What will happen if someone breaks the law on drugs?

- If someone is caught with a little bit of a drug, the police might warn them and take the drug away.
- If this happens a lot, the police might arrest the person and they might have to go to court. They might have to pay some money as a fine or even go to prison.
- It is very serious if someone is caught selling drugs or giving them away. They could go to prison for a long time.

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