Signs and Symptoms of Drug or Alcohol Use:

• Changes in friends
• Negative changes in schoolwork, missing school, or declining grades
• Increased secrecy about possessions or activities
• Use of incense, room deodorant, or perfume to hide smoke or chemical odors
• Subtle changes in conversations with friends, e.g. more secretive, using “coded” language
• Change in clothing choices: new fascination with clothes that highlight drug use
• Increase in borrowing money
• Evidence of drug paraphernalia such as pipes, rolling papers, etc.
• Evidence of use of inhalant products (such as hairspray, nail polish, correction fluid, common household products); Rags and paper bags are sometimes used as accessories
• Bottles of eye drops, which may be used to mask bloodshot eyes or dilated pupils
• New use of mouthwash or breath mints to cover up the smell of alcohol
• Missing prescription drugs—especially narcotics and mood stabilizers

For details on signs and symptoms of specific drug use check out the following links:

Phoenixcenter.org-The Phoenix Center-Greenville S.C. – prevention, education and treatment

GFPdrugfree.org-Greenville Family Partnership-Greenville S.C.-Education, prevention resources

Theantidrug.org-Parents-The Anti-Drug campaign-education prevention resources

NCPC.org-National Crime Prevention Council-education and resources