



QUESTION

How does technology use affect the brain and substance use?

MEET THE AMBASSADOR: ANIYA AKINJOBI



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE USE SOCIAL MEDIA

Dopamine: neurotransmitter that's released in the reward pathway to help us feel pleasure

Overstimulating the reward systems in the brain may eventually result in **addiction**

THE ROLE OF DOPAMINE IN SUBSTANCE USE

Substances like cannabis, e-cigarettes and alcohol may cause **more dopamine** to be released in the brain

Substances can also **prevent** the brain from **reabsorbing dopamine**, which makes the pleasure last longer

Reward Pathway



 Dopamine

HYPOTHESIS

Increased screen time may correlate with an increased risk of substance use due to the release of dopamine in the common reward pathway.