

6th May 2020

Sexual Health & COVID-19: Information for Professionals working with Young People

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you are all keeping well during these unprecedented times.

As someone who works or supports young people and their families, we wanted to update you on how Sexual Health Services are responding to Covid-19 and how this may affect your roles with young people.

We have temporarily suspended our usual appointment booking procedure. This includes closing our online booking system. Please ask a young person to call 0300 300 2016 if they feel they need to be seen. They will be contacted by a member of our clinical team and assessed by phone and if required we will allocate a time for the young person to come into a clinic

Furthermore, our Young Person clinics (within our main clinics) continue to operate. However, when arriving, young people will be given a time for a telephone assessment the same day. If the clinician feels the young person needs to be seen, they will arrange a time for them to attend clinic. Community and College/School Youth Clinics are closed.

Our <u>SHIELD and ROSE clinics</u> continue to run, but on the same principle as above. Patients will be contact by phone first and arranged to be seen face to face if required.

In some cases we are able to send out chlamydia and herpes treatment by post. Furthermore, we are also able to supply contraceptive pills by post if certain conditions are met.

We continue to provide online STI (18+) and Chlamydia (15-24) test kits, and free condoms (16+) which are discreetly delivered to home addresses in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth & Southampton. Young people can access this via our <u>website</u>. Please be aware that delivery and test result timescales may be delayed.

The Get It On condom scheme continues to run, and young people under 25 can access condoms from pharmacies. A list of participating venues is available on our <u>website</u>.

We have a Young Person Advice Guide and support for parents and professionals on our website.

Further details regarding Sexual Health & Covid-19 can be viewed on our <u>dedicated page</u>, as well as our <u>Covid-19 FAQs</u>.

If you have any queries about supporting Young People and their Sexual Health, or have a question about delivering relationship and education, please email our Sexual Health Promotion team at SNHS.sexualhealthpromotion@nhs.net



Kind regards,

Sexual Health Services

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