

Guide to Sexual Health



Who are we?

Young Hounslow Sexual Health is a sexual health service for young people up to age 24. We provide non-judgemental support and help you to feel confident in yourself, sexual health, and relationships.

Relationships and Sex Education Workshops and 1-to-1 sessions Help in accessing sexual health clinics

Access to free Chlamydia testing, and C-Card Scheme for free condoms



We deliver workshops in places such as schools, colleges and youth clubs. You may also see us in a communal area for a drop in - if you do, come and say hello!

We educate and support on a range of topics such as:

- consent and boundaries
- healthy, respectful relationships
- safer sex,
- contraception and STIs
- staying safe online
- sex and pleasure
- reproductive health
- emotional wellbeing



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Did you know YHSH is an outlet for Come Correct's C-Card?

That means you can get free condoms directly from us if you're registered for the scheme. If you aren't registered, you can register in person with us.



Contact us to speak to a member of our friendly team

- younghounslowrse@turning-point.co.uk
- www.turning-point.co.uk/services/young-hounslow-sexual-health



Sexual Health Clinics

Where can I get free condoms, STI testing and contraception?

Condoms are free at all sexual health clinics and most GPs. If you are registered for Come Correct's C-Card, you can get free condoms directly from us, or from any of the other outlets on the Come Correct website in the borough.

Sexual health clinics are free and can be accessed by everybody, regardless of how you identify or your resident status.



Register for the Come Correct C-Card scheme to get free condoms from us!

PEP

It is normal to feel a bit anxious or embarrassed before your first visit to a sexual health clinic. Staff are really used to this, and will do their best to make you feel comfortable. Clinics are discreet and respect your confidentiality. Sometimes you don't even need to book an appointment and can just walk in, but be prepared to wait!

PEP is a medication taken to prevent the transmission of HIV after unprotected oral or penetrative sex. PEP must be taken within 72 hours of exposure to HIV. If you think you could be at risk of HIV transmission, go to A&E or a sexual health clinic.

Sexual health check-ups

Regular STI testing is basic health care that ensures you and your partners are safe. It's always good practice to get tested after you have had unprotected sex and also in between partners.

You need to wait at least two weeks after unprotected sex before you can be tested, otherwise your test results may not be accurate.

Anyone can catch an STI regardless of how you identify, meaning everyone should use protection!

Free Clinics +



Find your nearest clinic for free emergency contraception or a sexual health appointment:

www.chelwest.nhs.uk/services/ hiv-sexual-health/clinics/ sexual-health-hounslow

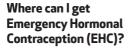
Can't go to a clinic? You can get home STI testing kits, EHC and some contraception methods online for free at:

hounslow.shl.uk

Trans and non-binary services?

Visit the 56 Dean Street website dean.st

Contraception and EHC



You can get EHC (also known as the 'morning after pill') for free at all sexual health clinics, your GP and most NHS services. You can also get EHC at some pharmacies for free, however we recommend calling them in advance to confirm, otherwise most pharmacies sell EHC for between £25 and £35.

Two main types of EHC:

Levonelle can be taken up to 3 days (72 hours) after a pregnancy risk, though it is more effective the earlier it is taken.

EllaOne can be taken up to 5 days (120 hours) after a pregnancy risk.

Contraceptive Coils

An IUD (aka copper coil)

can be fitted into your uterus up to 5 days (120 hours) for emergency contraception after unprotected sex.

An IUS (hormonal coil)

is similar to an IUD, but releases copper instead of progestogen into the womb. An IUS can be fitted at any time during your monthly menstrual cycle, as long as you're not pregnant.

Split the price between you and your partner. Using EHC isn't having an abortion.

Using EHC has no long term effect on your fertility. Always protect yourself.

Preventing pregnancy is not just the responsibility of women and people with uteruses- it is a shared responsibility and everyone should learn about the contraceptive options available.



Physical barrier methods like condoms are the only way to protect yourself and your partner against STIs. Condoms, internal condoms (femi-doms) and dental dams can be picked up from sexual health clinics for free.

Condoms come in different sizes and also can be non-latex for people who have a latex allergy, as well as vegan.

Pulling out is not safe protection against pregnancy as live sperm can be found in pre-cum.

Sexual Assault

Where can I get help if I or someone I know has been sexually assaulted?

It is very important you tell an adult who you trust. This could be your teacher, youth worker or nurse.

Sexual activity without your consent is considered rape or sexual assault.

Self-care and getting emotional support in the aftermath of an incident of this nature is very important, even though it can be very difficult to talk about.

What if someone tells me they have been assaulted?

Listen and be patient ...it can take time for someone to open up Keep it private ...but tell an adult if you feel the person could be in danger

Take care of
yourself
....supporting someone
you care about through
something traumatic
can be hard for you
as well

Always
believe them
...many people
are scared of telling
someone because
they fear they won't
be believed

blame them ...it is never ever someone's fault if this has happened to them

Never

You can also contact...



The Police call 999 (emergency) or call 101 (non emergency)

The Havens – confidential and specialist clinic for sexual assault victims call **020 3299 6900** www.thehavens.org.uk

Rape Crisis (women & girls) call 0808 802 9999 www.rapecrisis.org.uk

SurvivorsUK (men & boys) call 020 3598 3898 or text 020 3322 1860 www.survivorsuk.org

Childline – if you are under 18 young person call **0800 11 11** www.childline.org.uk

Victim Support 0808 1689 111 www.victimsupport.org.uk

Galop – confidential support and advice for LGBT people call 0207 704 2040 www.galop.org.uk

NHS call 111



Let's talk about Chlamydia



What is Chlamydia?

Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted infection (STI). It is a bacterial infection that is contracted through sexual activity. Chlamydia can be passed on through:

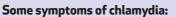
- unprotected vaginal, anal or oral sex
- sharing unwashed, used sex toys
- touching genitals with someone else's genitals
- infected semen or vaginal fluid getting into your eye

Chlamydia is the most common STI in the UK

Chlamydia can't be passed through hugging, sharing baths, towels, food or drink items.



Chlamydia is most common in sexually active young people.



- Pain when peeing
- Unusual discharge from the vagina, penis or bottom
- Swollen testicles
- Bleeding between periods

Chlamydia can also be asymptomatic, so you might not have any symptoms, and won't know you have it. The only way to know for sure is by getting tested for STIs. Chlamydia is easily treated with antibiotics, but if left untreated it can cause pelvic inflammatory disease and infertility for people with uteruses.

When do I need to get tested?

You can get tested 2 weeks after unprotected sex (this is when the bacteria can be detected). This could be in the form of a urine sample or swab sample.

Where can I get a chlamydia testing kit?

From us (Young Hounslow Sexual Health) we can even post them for you!

Your local sexual health clinic

www.chelwest.nhs.uk/services/ hiv-sexual-health/clinics/ sexual-health-hounslow

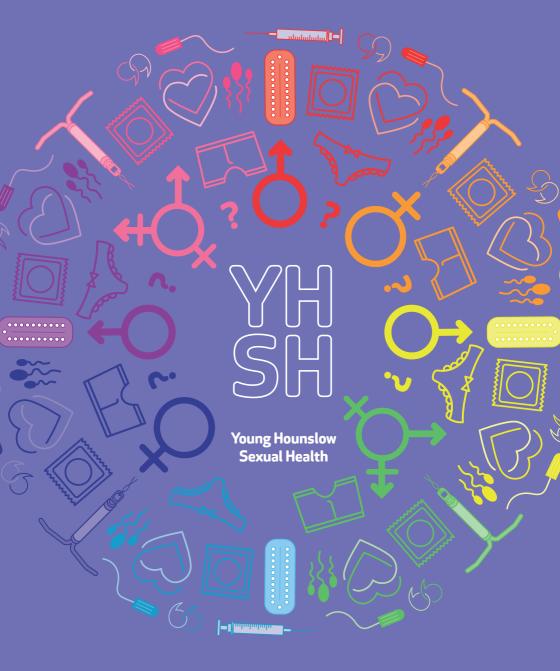
Online at www.checkurself.org.uk

For a full **sexual health screening test** kit (including Gonorrhoea, Syphilis and HIV), you can order online at hounslow shluk

How can I protect myself against STI's?



- Using condoms (only physical barrier contraceptive method that can prevent both STI transmission and pregnancy)
- Getting tested regularly (we recommend getting tested for STIs once a year, and whenever you have sex with a new or different partner).
- ✓ Talk honestly with sexual partners about both of your sexual histories.





For referrals, bookings and queries, visit Young Hounslow Sexual Health

- www.turning-point.co.uk/services/young-hounslow-sexual-health
- vounghounslowrse@turning-point.co.uk

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