



School Nursing Team
Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust
Stroud Community Clinic
Field Road
Stroud
GL5 2JB

Dear Parents and Carers

Invitation letter re: Extended School Nurse Drop-in

We are writing to inform you of a proposed extension of the on-site, school-based drop-in health clinic for secondary school aged children. You may already be aware that for many years now, the public health school nursing service has run a confidential drop-in session, once a week, to enable any student with a health related problem to access support and advice. In line with the latest Government and Ofsted guidance on best practice, we wish to offer an extended school based health service for the students. Currently more than half the secondary schools in Gloucestershire have this extended service in situ.

Research has shown that young people do not always wish to access their GP for advice regarding health issues and want services specifically designed for them, which observe their right to confidentiality; are close to where they live; open at convenient times; informal and relaxed; and have friendly staff that will treat them with respect.

The aim of this extended service/drop-in is to encourage students to develop healthy lifestyles and behaviours in all aspects of their lives, to stay safe and contribute to raising student achievement through support in a friendly accessible and confidential environment. The public health nurse will provide health advice and guidance appropriate to the student's age and maturity. This can include areas such as healthy lifestyles, smoking cessation and weight management. As well as this, some students will have access to a full range of sexual health services including contraceptive advice, advice and signposting for infection, c-card registration and condom distribution, pregnancy testing and emergency hormonal contraception. These additional services would be offered with specific reference to Fraser Guidelines, which supports the nurse to assess the level of understanding and appropriateness for intervention, according to the student's age and maturity. A vital component of the Fraser Guidelines is that the student is always encouraged to talk to their parent/carer or another appropriate adult in their home life. If required, appropriate referrals and signposting can be made to other agencies and where necessary, follow-up appointments would be offered at drop-in.

The Trustees and School Council have already approved this proposed health service development and the next stage is a consultation evening with you as Parents or Carers of the pupils. We would like to invite you to attend such a consultation evening via teams on Thursday 23 January 2025 at 6pm.

The following people will be present to lead discussions and answer any questions you may have:

- Zoe Williams, School Nurse at Katharine Lady Berkeley.
- Sally Chapman, Specialist Community Public Health Nurse and Stroud Locality Manager

We look forward to seeing you on 23 January and should be grateful if you would please complete the online form indicating whether you are able to attend, by 17 January 2025 at the latest by [clicking here](#). If you are unable to attend, we would welcome your comments, views and any questions/concerns you may have, by letter to the address above or email to: StroudLocality.SNT@ghc.nhs.uk. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that you have no objections to this proposed service development.

Yours sincerely

School Nursing Team
Gloucestershire Health and Care Services NHS Trust
www.ghc.nhs.uk

Referral Form : <https://www.ghc.nhs.uk/self-refer/school-nurse-referral-form/>