

## SU3: Wirral Health Services in Schools

**Area:** Wirral

**Lead:** Lucy Tomlinson (Lucy.Tomlinson@wirral.nhs.uk)

**Brief Overview:** A variety of consultations identified that young people wanted sexual health services in an accessible environment. The health services in schools proposal was developed with a variety of stakeholders including consultations with young people. The proposal was agreed by the local secondary heads board with all bar one school hosting the drop in clinic model (see further details of model attached). Service delivery was coordinated between the school nursing service and youth service with additional providers commissioned to provide specific services such as smoking cessation and contraception.

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Weekly clinics were held in school settings and tested over the summer holiday period within Youth Hubs.

**Target Group:** Wirral's Health Services in Schools service can be accessed by all pupils attending any of the participating schools.

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### Outcomes:

- Reduction in under 16 conception rate since implementation of HSIS.
- Initial service delivery identified substantial need for support around mental health and aspirations, contraception and smoking cessation. These additional services were commissioned as part of the HSIS model in 2011.
- JMU external evaluation by end of April 2013.
- Sexual health and relationships education and advice large proportion of need.

**Evaluation:** A full external evaluation is now being undertaken by Liverpool John Moore's University to evaluate what schools think of the service and how this has benefitted young people.

### Anecdotal feedback

*"I'm not going to have a baby until I'm at least 25!" – female, year 9*

*"I feel more confident in saying no to sex and am happier in myself – female, year 8*

*"I think the service is good and confidential – she won't judge anyone" – female, year 11*

*"I'm happy for her to have this service in school because I was a young mum and I don't want that for any of my daughters" - parent*

**Sustainability:** Funding commitment is required from PCT in order to sustain service delivery.

### What made it work?

- Meetings with senior leadership teams, Head teachers and Governors to inform stakeholder's rationale for service and what young people use the clinics for.
- Marketed as a holistic health service.

**Issues ironed out in the first year:**

- Clinic location – identifying suitable venues.
- Schools only wanted to be seen as hosts of service.
- Some negative press initially but this was overcome.