**Please look at this with a carer**

**What is Connect?**

Connect is a comprehensive sexual health service, for people of all ages who have learning difficulties or Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

It is held at The Wolverton Centre at Kingston Hospital which is a dedicated sexual health centre.

If preferred, you can attend one of the routine appointment clinics as the Wolverton Centre is open Monday to Friday.

**Connect offers:**

- information and advice about having safe sex
- testing and treatment for STIs (sexually transmitted infections)
- HIV testing, advice & counselling
- all methods of contraception
- emergency contraception
- cervical smear tests
- pregnancy testing and advice
- free condoms
- relationship advice and information for people with learning difficulties and their parents, carers and health professionals.

**Where is Connect held?**

At The Wolverton Centre, Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Galsworthy Road, Kingston, Surrey KT2 7QB.

**When is Connect held?**

The Connect clinic is held every Wednesday, with appointments available 3.00-5.00 pm.

**Who can attend Connect?**

Anyone who has learning difficulties or ASD. You can come by yourself or, if you prefer, bring someone with you for support.

Parents, carers and professionals can also book appointments for themselves for advice and support.

**How to book your appointment**

You can book an appointment or you can ask someone to do it for you. Some drop-in appointments are available during each Connect clinic.

Ask for a ‘Connect Appointment’ by:

**Phone:** 020 8934 3399 and speak to the secretary

**Email:** khn-tr.wolvertonappointments@nhs.net

**What to do if you have an urgent problem?**

- During clinic hours - telephone the Wolverton Centre on 020 8974 9331 and speak to the secretary, who will put your call through to the most appropriate member of staff.

- Out of hours - please contact your GP practice.
Who works at Connect?
Key members of the Team include:

- Clare: Doctor
- Sarah: Nurse
- Louise: Technician
- Claire: Adviser

All staff are approachable, non-judgemental and have experience of working with people with learning difficulties.

What happens at an Appointment?
The Doctor or Nurse will ask you about the reasons for attending Connect and if you have any worries or concerns about your sexual health. You will be asked questions about your general health and specific ones about sexual health and the contraception you use. The Doctor or Nurse will explain what will happen in more detail should tests or treatment be required.

Information and confidentiality
Information shared with Connect staff will be kept safe and private. Rarely we may need to inform another health professional if we have strong reason to believe that you are at serious risk of harm or danger. We would always discuss this with you first.

Travelling to Connect
Connect is held at The Wolverton Centre, Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Galsworthy Road, Kingston, Surrey KT2 7QB.

It is recommended that patients and visitors use public transport to get to the hospital which is well served by both buses and trains.

**By bus:** There are a number of bus routes to Kingston hospital and all buses are wheelchair accessible.

**By train:** The nearest train station to Kingston Hospital is Norbiton. The hospital is a short walk (less than five minutes) from the station along Coombe Road or Wolverton Avenue. Ramp access is available to the station platforms.

**Parking:** Spaces are available on the hospital site, but are very limited. There are a number of disabled parking spaces around the Hospital and 2 next to the Wolverton Centre.

Appointments every Wednesday from 3.00pm

Information for patients, parents, carers & health professionals

www.ConnectKingston.nhs.uk