



Tring School

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Dear Parents and Carers

HERTFORDSHIRE CHLAMYDIA SCREENING PROGRAMME

FACT: 1 in 10 sexually active young people have Chlamydia

Chlamydia is the UK's most common, curable, sexually transmitted infection. It is caused by bacteria and is easily passed on through unprotected sex. Chlamydia is known as '*The Silent Infection*', as often there are no immediate signs or symptoms.

The long-term consequences of Chlamydia can be extremely serious. If left untreated Chlamydia can be life-altering and may cause:

- pelvic inflammatory disease
- ectopic pregnancy
- pregnancy and childbirth complications
- infertility in both men and women
- painful infection in the testes for males
- reactive arthritis for males

Since April 2007 Hertfordshire has been part of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme as a requirement of the Department of Health. The programme aims to screen as many young people as possible for Chlamydia. The screening is a simple urine test, and all results and any required follow-up treatment are handled in complete confidence.

Hertfordshire Primary Care Trust is now offering Chlamydia screening in all secondary schools in Hertfordshire. We are very pleased that health professionals from the Primary Care Trust will be coming to Tring School to talk to our **Year 11 students** and then carrying out screening for Chlamydia on:

Friday 13 January (Ascott and Claydon students) – Period 4 (12.25-1.25pm)
Friday 20 January (Halton and Waddesdon students) – Period 1 (9.05-10.05am)

For further information, we enclose a list of Frequently Asked Questions, but please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any additional questions or queries.

We hope that you will support us in this crucial screening programme – it could make all the difference to the health and future of our young people.

Yours sincerely

A J Dobberson
Assistant Headteacher

