

Welcome to
The Solace Centre
in Surrey

Guide for professionals
who work with children and young
people, regarding sexual assault.

What is The Solace Centre?

The Solace Centre is a Sexual Assault Referral Centre, which is a specialist 24 hour service for all children and young people who have been raped or sexually assaulted.

The centre enables children and young people to access medical care, counselling and screening for sexually transmitted diseases, whilst assisting the police investigation into alleged offence and provide facilities for a high standard of forensic examination if needed.



"it helps
to talk"

We will see all children/young people with acute sexual assault allegations and also children/young people (and siblings if needed) with historical allegations of sexual abuse.

There is no lower age limit.

Referrals

Any professional can refer to the service. Self referrals are also accepted, although referrals may need to be discussed with other agencies. A referral to the Solace Centre does not always need to involve the police.

There is team of Crisis Support Workers and a Paediatric Consultant on call each day to offer advice if needed.

Call on **0300 130 3038** to arrange a day and time to come in.

Who will see the child and when?

All children and young people will be seen by a team of highly specialised paediatricians and specialist forensic doctors.

Any onward referrals or investigations if necessary will be arranged by the centre staff.

Where possible, examinations are performed during the daytime. They are pre-arranged and always conducted in the best interests of the child or young person. Even if a young person does not want an examination, they can still access further support services and screening, so please contact the SARC to discuss all cases.

If the allegation has occurred within the last 7 days then it may be possible to obtain forensic evidence and a specialist forensic doctor (FME) will assist with this examination.

There is a weekly clinic where all children and young people are seen by a Paediatrician with historical allegations of abuse.

Where appropriate advice and screening for sexually transmitted disease screening will be done at the time of the examination or arrangements made for this to occur at a convenient time.

We also provide advice on emergency contraception and pregnancy testing.

If out of hours we may need to liaise with our colleagues in London to assist with a forensic examination for a child less than 13 years of age.

All referrals 24/7 and 7 days a week should still initially be made to the SOLACE centre, on 0300 130 3038.



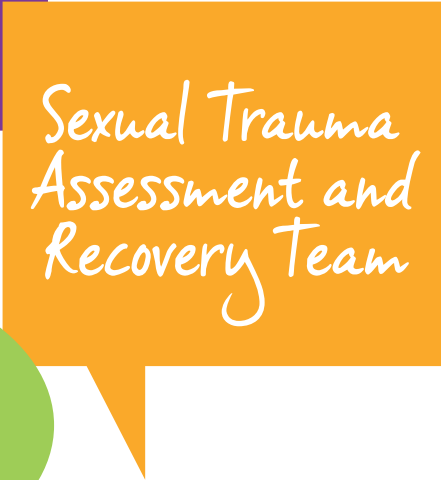
"What
can I do"

Ongoing and long term support


We work very closely with CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) and The STARS Team (Sexual Trauma Assessment and Recovery Team) and if appropriate our ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) can also support. Ongoing support will be arranged.



*Child and Adolescent
Mental Health
Services*



*Sexual Trauma
Assessment and
Recovery Team*



*Independent
Sexual Violence
Advisor*

Useful steps

Useful steps to recommend if someone has been sexually assaulted or raped.

- 1 If you have been raped or sexually assaulted call 999 and get to a safe place
- 2 Save all of the clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault, unwashed and if possible place in a sterile clean bag
- 3 Do not:
 - Shower, bath or wash
 - Brush your teeth
 - Disturb anything in the area where the assault occurred
- 4 If you are absolutely certain you do not want the police involved and are not in danger, contact us

The Solace Centre at Cobham Hospital

168 Portsmouth Road
Cobham, Surrey KT11 1HS

0300 130 3038

[solace.careuk.com](https://www.solace.careuk.com)

Find the Solace Centre

The Solace Centre at Cobham Hospital

168 Portsmouth Road
Cobham, Surrey KT11 1HS



Please make all referrals to: **0300 130 3038**
Office hours are 8am – 6pm, Monday to Friday

Surrey Paediatric SARC lead: **Dr Kate Brocklesby**

Open mornings to visit the SARC are first Wednesday of every month – please phone to book.

solacesarc.org.uk