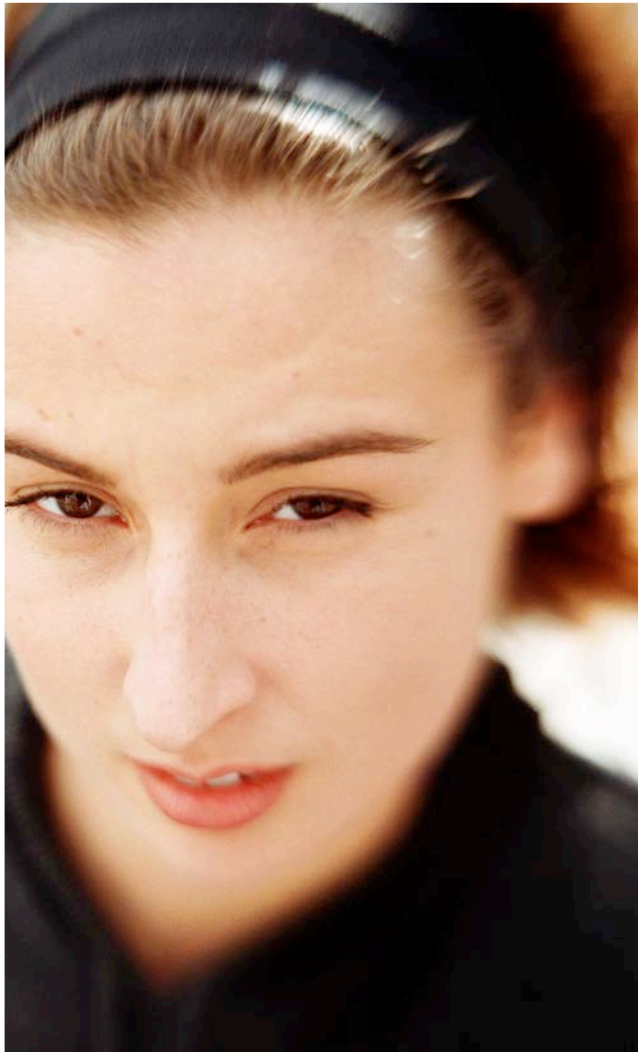


If there are other children in your family they may also be asked to attend for an examination.

### What next?

The doctor will discuss their findings with you, your parents and the social worker and answer any questions. They may make a follow up appointment to discuss any results. After the medical, further discussion will take place between the social worker and the police and you will be informed about this.



The wording in this publication can be made available in other formats such as large print and Braille.

Please call 01274 434361.

Bradford  
**B S C B**  
Safeguarding Children Board

Teen: Physical injury

## Child Protection Medical Examination

Your questions answered



## Introduction

In Bradford we are committed to working in partnership with young people and their parents and carers. This leaflet will help you to understand the child protection medical assessment, part of a child protection investigation involving Bradford Social Care, police and health working together to help you.

We know from studies and experience that most young people find the medical assessment reassuring and helpful.

## Why do I need an examination?

A concern has been expressed about your well being or an injury. A paediatrician (a specialist child and adolescent doctor) has been asked to see you to review these concerns. This specialist doctor will try to make a full assessment on the day of the examination.

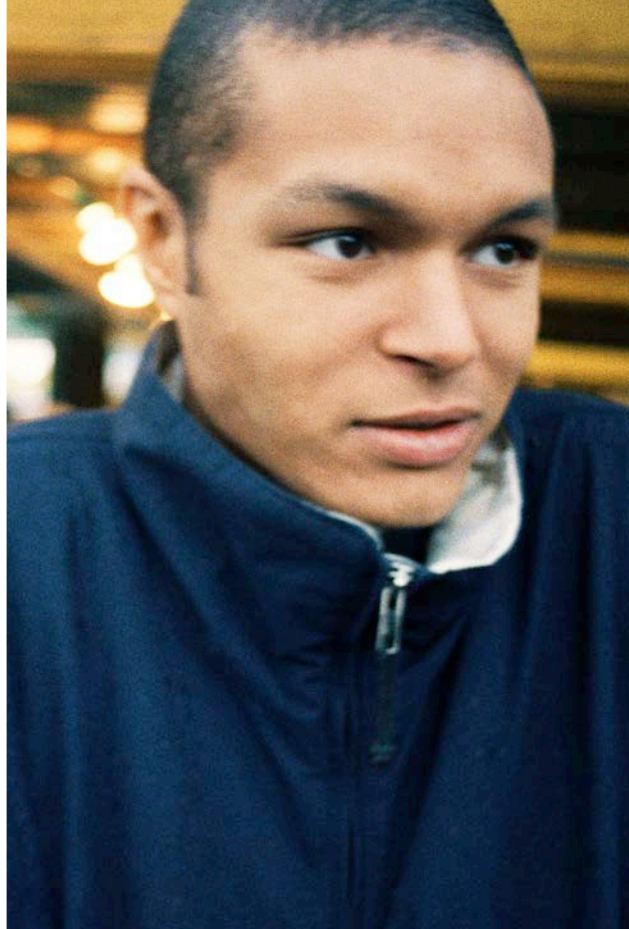
## What happens?

A social worker or police officer will normally bring you to the hospital - Children's Outpatients St Luke's Hospital, Ward 2 at BRI or Outpatients at Airedale General Hospital. On arrival a receptionist or nurse will confirm your name and details.

A nurse may weigh you and take a sample of urine if possible. You can ask the nurse any questions you have about the examination.

## What happens during the examination?

The doctor will ask you about what happened. This is a chance for you to express how you have been affected. They may ask you to describe how you feel about the concerns that have been raised and tell them what happened in your own words. They ask all teenagers these same questions and will never judge or disrespect you.



Once you feel you have said all you need to, the doctor will pull a curtain around the bed and begin a general medical examination. This involves assessing your eyes, ears, teeth, chest, arms, legs in the same way as your own local doctor may examine you.

If you have problems "down below" such as soreness or bleeding, with your consent, the doctor may also ask to examine your private parts. This involves looking first at the vagina or penis and then looking at your anus (bottom). This should not hurt, if you are sore this may be due to an infection or injury. The examination is important to decide if you need treatment.

## How will information be recorded?

It is normal for the doctor to be making notes or small drawings throughout the examination to look at afterwards.

Any injuries may be photographed by a hospital photographer, doctor or police civilian. You will be asked for written permission.

## Who else will be in the examination room?

During the examination a nurse will be present. You may want an adult who you trust to come along with you to the appointment. During the examination the doctor will pull curtains around you so that you can have privacy. The social worker will stay in the room, but will be behind a curtain for the examination.

## Do I have to be examined?

You are never forced to have an examination and can refuse at any time.

If you wish to pause or even stop at any point during the examination simply tell the doctor or nurse and they will respect this.

It may be possible to come back on another day to have the examination or take some time out before continuing. You should discuss this with the doctor and social worker.

## For Parents

Young people cope best when they are well supported by carers who are calm and encouraging.

It is helpful if you can remain positive in your encouragement of your child's examination. Your child needs your support. The examination will be done in a patient, caring and sensitive manner at their pace.