

What happens afterwards?

- ◆ We agree any medical treatment or psychological support the child/ young person needs
 - ◆ We provide a detailed report to the child/ young persons social worker, and GP.
 - ◆ We provide a police statement if requested.
 - ◆ CHISVA (Child + Family Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) Support.
 - ◆ Therapeutic support
- If you have questions after the assessment you can ring the helpline at any time.

24hr Helpline:

0800 183 0023

Serenity is part of EMCYPSAS .

They offer a 24 hour helpline for parents/ carers and healthcare

Professionals.



Serenity and its workers are managed by the Health Service; we work closely with the police but we don't pass on any information without the consent of the client, unless there is a safeguarding or public safety issue to consider.



Sexual Assault Referral Centre
Highfield Clinical Care Centre
Entrances C & D
(rear of building)
Cliftonville Road
Northampton
NN1 5BU
Tel: 0800 183 0023
serenity@nhft.nhs.uk
<https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/serenity>

Serenity premises are fully adapted for people with disabilities but please contact us in advance if you wish to discuss any particular requirements.

Serenity aims for its services to be available to everyone. Please contact us to discuss ways in which we can help you.

Tel: 0800 183 0023



**Sexual Assault
Referral Centre
Northamptonshire**


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What is Serenity? Examination, Interview, Help & Support Information

This leaflet gives information to people who have a concern regarding a young person that may be seen at Serenity

**East Midlands Children and Young
People Sexual Assault Service
(EMCYPSAS)**

24hr Helpline: 0800 183 0023

 The medical assessment is an important part of a police or social services investigation to make sure that the child/ young person is safe and gets any support needed. The police officer or social worker will discuss the case with one of our team of doctors, who will only recommend a medical examination if they believe it will help.

What happens when we arrive?

You will be greeted by a clinical support worker, and offered a private family room in which to wait. The clinical support worker will explain processes to the family/carer and what can be expected from their visit that day.

At Serenity we have some very comfortable rooms for young people and children these include:

Television

DVDs

Books & Magazines

Toys & Games

Activity Packs & Colouring

Drinks & Biscuits

What is the medical examination like?


- ◆ Examinations are non invasive, straight forward and are unlikely to upset children and young people.
- ◆ The clinical support worker will be with the child/young person throughout their time at Serenity.
- ◆ Young children are usually seen by 2 doctors - a Paediatrician and a Forensic Physician, to ensure the welfare of your child and gain any medical or forensic evidence which may be present.
- ◆ Our doctors have special training to recognise signs of abuse.
- ◆ We will explain the assessment before starting, answer any questions and will ask consent.
- ◆ We use a special camera for all child examinations, this provides light and magnification, and records a video of the examination. This is to allow doctors to review and seek second opinions if needed, and capture any evidence of injuries.
- ◆ If swabs are needed – to check for DNA or infection – we will explain this.
- ◆ This is not an internal examination.



Video Interviews

We have two interview suites at Serenity. Booking for these suites can be done by calling : 01604 601713

The Examination

-  ◆ Most children cope very well. For young children - again not too different to seeing their own doctor. Most children are happy when the exam is over, pleased to get a sticker, and want to go back to play in the family room.
- ◆ Distraction helps – the clinical support worker will engage with the child to build a rapport to help support them through the exam. We employ distraction techniques, including a wildlife projector, and get your child involved in their own care, such as listening to their heart beat, weighing and measuring themselves. Parents/ carers can sit with the child and chat to them during the exam. Children worry the most if parents are frightened or upset.
- ◆ We will stop the exam if the child/ young person is becoming distressed.
- ◆ The social worker/ police are expected to stay at Serenity for the duration of the Examination, after which you will be given a verbal report.