

## **The Fraser Guidelines**

In 1985, Lord Fraser, in judgement of the Gillick case, said that a doctor can give contraceptive advice or treatment to a person under the age of 16 without parental consent providing the doctor is satisfied that:

- the young person understands the health professional's advice;
- the health professional cannot persuade the young person to inform his or her parent or allow the doctor to inform the parents that he or she is seeking contraceptive advice;
- the young person is very likely to begin or continue having intercourse with or without contraceptive treatment;
- unless he or she receives contraceptive advice or treatment, the young person's physical or mental health or both are likely to suffer;
- the young person's best interests require the health professional to give contraceptive advice, treatment or both without parental consent.