

Discussion & Role Play Scenarios

1. The Long-Term Relationship

Colin and Jane are both 19 and have been dating for about 6 months, and are getting more serious. They've decided to move past kissing, but Colin is nervous. Jane has said, *"I'm on the pill, so we don't have to worry about pregnancy."*

Colin knows the pill is great for preventing pregnancy, but he has remembered their PSHE lessons on STIs. Colin feels that he needs to share his concerns and talk about using condoms.

Questions:

- How easy is Colin going to find it to talk about wanting to use condoms, as well as hormonal contraception?
- What might Jane think about Colin's suggestion?
- Should they have sex if they can't have this sort of conversation?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class how the conversation might go between Colin and Jane.

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2. A Same-Sex Couple (Non-Binary & Woman)

Kai identifies as non-binary, but has a uterus, and Sarah identifies as a woman. They are both 20 and are a new couple who are sexually active with each other. They know that pregnancy is not a risk for them, but Kai wants to talk about protecting against STIs. Sarah says, *"We've both only been with one other person, I think we're fine."*

Kai knows that not all STIs have obvious symptoms and wants to be sure they protect each other.

Questions:

- Could Kai or Sarah (or both) have an STI and not know about it?
- Why might Kai or Sarah (or both) take a (contraceptive) pill, but have no risk of pregnancy?
- If Kai and Sarah live on the Isle of Man, where could they go for free, confidential advice?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class how the conversation might go between Kai and Sarah.

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3. The Embarrassed Buyer

Ali is 19 and wants some more condoms to practice at home, for when, or perhaps if, they get the chance to have sex.

Ali decides to buy some from the chemist, but when they get to the pharmacy, they meet their friend's older brother, this could be SO embarrassing!. Ali rushes to the counter, barely able to whisper their request. The pharmacist politely asks if they need help choosing a size or type, but Ali just wants to run away.

Questions:

- Should Ali be embarrassed about buying condoms?
- Does it make any difference if Ali is male or female?
- If Sam lived on the Isle of Man, where could they go for free, confidential advice?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class how Sam (male or female) could ask for free condoms.

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4. Spur of the moment pressure

Ben is 21, he's a busy guy with lots of plans for the future. His girlfriend Maya is 23; and they are at a party. They have not been going out for long, but have had sex together, always using a condom. All of a sudden, at the party, they find themselves alone. Ben reaches for a condom, but Maya pulls away and says, *"Just this once, let's skip it. It's so awkward, and I'll worry about it later."*

Ben knows this is a high-pressure moment and needs to be firm about using a condom.

Questions:

- They both want to have sex, but why should Ben insist on using a condom?
- Could Maya be taking hormonal contraception and not have told Ben?
- Whose responsibility is it to ensure that they are both protected from unwanted pregnancy and STIs?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class what Ben could say, so that they both stay safe.

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5. The Side Effect Worry

Dave and Chloe are both in their late teens. They have started having sex using a condom to protect against STIs, and Chloe has been taking the contraceptive pill for a month. Over the last few days, Chloe has been experiencing unexpected mood changes.

David suggests she stop taking it immediately and tells Chloe, *"We can rely on the condoms, they're just as good"*. Chloe knows she needs to talk to a doctor before stopping the pill to avoid risking pregnancy and wants to explore other options, like an injection, implant or IUD.

Questions:

- Is Dave right? Are condoms "just as good"? Why might condoms not prevent a pregnancy?
- What advice would you give Chloe?
- If Chloe and Dave lived on the Isle of Man, where could they get free, confidential advice?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class a conversation between Dave and Chloe to resolve this difficulty.

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6. The Pill-Shaming Friend

Kerri is 19. She tells a trusted friend that she is going to start taking the contraceptive pill. The friend says, *"Seriously? Isn't that just for people who sleep around? Why do you need that if you're only with one person?"*

Kerri wants to explain that she wants to have hormonal contraception, because it is a normal part of reproductive health and relationship responsibility, not just about "how many" partners you have. She also wants to have better facial skin.

Questions:

- Is Kerri right? Why does she say that using hormonal contraception is a normal part of reproductive health and relationship responsibility?
- If the friend found out by accident that Kerri was on the pill, what could Kerri say to her?
- If Kerrie lived on the Isle of Man, where could she get free, confidential advice?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class the conversation where Kerri explains her thinking to her friend.

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7. The Shared Responsibility

Hannah and Lucas are both 17 and have started having sex with each other. They have been using condoms, but Hannah wants to start using a hormonal method. She tells Lucas, *"I'm worried about how much it might cost and remembering to take a pill every day"*.

Lucas knows that contraception on the Isle of Man is free and says, *"I can set a daily alarm on my phone to remind you to take it."* Hannah appreciates the shared responsibility and wants to thank him.

Questions:

- What are your thoughts about Lucas offering to set an alarm and remind Hannah to take the pill?
- At what age can young people on the Isle of Man access free, confidential advice about contraception?
- If they live on the Isle of Man, where could they get free, confidential advice?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class the conversation where Lucas offers to set an alarm and tells Hannah where they can go for free, confidential advice.

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8. The condom failure

Avery and Blake are both 15. They have not been going out for very long, but they agree to have sex and use a condom. During sex, Avery realises the condom has slid off his penis. Avery tells Blake, and they both immediately stop.

They are very anxious and unsure what to do next, but it's late at night.

Questions:

- Why might the condom have slipped off Avery's penis? What could he do on a future occasion?
- What are the risks that Avery and Blake now face?
- There is probably not much they can do tonight, but what can they do to keep themselves safe and healthy the following morning?

Challenge

Involve everyone in your group to show the class the conversation in which Avery and Blake discuss what they need to do to ensure they are both safe and healthy.