

Period Poverty in the Community

The Education Department has received a grant from Welsh Government to tackle period poverty in the community and in our schools. The following schemes are available in the county that allow women and girls to access sanitary products free of charge:

TRAC 11-24 employees can distribute eco-friendly packs to vulnerable young women and girls, from underprivileged backgrounds or who are disengaged from mainstream education. During the pandemic, the team has been distributing to the young people's homes and publicising the fact that the products are available.

See link:

<https://www.facebook.com/222797051109904/posts/3101215769934670/?d=w>

There is varied stock of eco-friendly sanitary products available in the **Flying Start centres** for employees to distribute to mothers/girls on low incomes. There are six of these centres across Gwynedd which support families. Flying Start, Team Around the Family and Families First employees will be able to distribute the products free of charge to women and girls who need them, in a dignified way. This provision will still be available during the pandemic.

It had been intended for **Gwynedd Libraries** (13 of them across the county) to be a central point to offer free sanitary products for all women and girls who require them for whatever reason including socio-economic reasons. However, as the Libraries are not currently open during the pandemic, arrangements will be put in place to ensure that these products are available for **food banks** across the county to ensure that they have an adequate supply of sanitary products.

It is also possible to contact **local schools** to ask for information about packs of sanitary products. The Government grant has enabled the Education Department to provide products for all girls from year 5 to year 13 in the county's schools. You can contact the individual schools to make further enquiries or Diane Jones at the Education Department dianejones3@gwynedd.llyw.cymru