

Kingston and Richmond Child Death Overview Panel Newsletter – May 2017

Welcome

The Joint CDOP is pleased to share with you a range of information to help reduce the risk of child deaths in Kingston and Richmond. Please share this newsletter widely.

Local Learning in focus: Allergies and Asthma

The CDOP has reviewed a number of child deaths during 2016/17 which have highlighted that the risk to children from asthma and allergies could be reduced by all professionals and families working together to ensure that each child affected has a clear management plan that is adhered to, reviewed regularly and shared with all caregivers including schools.

Families, Schools, Primary and Secondary Healthcare professionals can access further information including template plans via the following websites:

Asthma: <https://www.myhealth.london.nhs.uk/healthy-london/programmes/children-and-young-people/london-asthma-toolkit>

Allergies: <http://www.bsaci.org/about/pag-allergy-action-plans-for-children>

Inhalers in Schools

From 1st October 2014 the Human Medicines (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2014 allows schools to buy salbutamol inhalers, without a prescription, for use in emergencies.

The emergency salbutamol inhaler should only be used by children, for whom written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler has been given, who have either been diagnosed with asthma and prescribed an inhaler, or who have been prescribed an inhaler as reliever medication. The inhaler can be used if the pupil's prescribed inhaler is not available (for example, because it is broken, or empty).

This change applies to all primary and secondary schools in the UK. Schools are not required to hold an inhaler – this is a discretionary power enabling schools to do this if they wish. Schools which choose to keep an emergency inhaler should establish a policy or protocol for the use of the emergency inhaler based on this guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-asthma-inhalers-for-use-in-schools>

Learning from Child Deaths - Joint Conference 19/07/17

On Wednesday 19th July 2017 Kingston, Richmond, Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth LSCBs are holding a free joint conference aimed at frontline and lead professionals across all agencies to share key learning from child deaths, promote advice and information including tips for practice, and to help raise awareness of local and national resources to reduce the risk of future child deaths and improve support for families.

We will be joined by guest speakers from the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation, POPYRUS – prevention of young suicide UK, the Lullaby Trust, and the Child Bereavement Helpline.

To register visit <http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/training.php> and click on 'Training programme' to select this event and enrol for your free place (a small charge will be applicable to non-attendance of booked places to cover the cost of refreshments).

Child Safety Week 2017

Child Safety Week runs 5-11 June 2017. This year's theme is caring is sharing. Please circulate and display the accident prevention advice overleaf widely and visit www.childsafetyweek.co.uk to help share advice and information to keep children safe.

Top tips for accident prevention in under 5s

Burns and scalds

Did you know hair straighteners now account for one in ten burn injuries to children?

Here's some advice from the Children's Burns Trust <http://www.cbtrust.org.uk/>

- ❖ Keep electric kettles, hot drinks, irons, hair straighteners and wires out of reach
- ❖ Always run cold water for the bath first before adding hot
- ❖ Keep saucepans at the back of the stove NOT near the front - turn handles to the back
- ❖ Keep secure fire guard screens in front of open fires, heaters & radiators
- ❖ Don't allow children near barbecues, garden chemicals or fireworks



Drowning

Did you know children can drown in as little as 5cm of water?

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents <http://www.rospa.com/> advises as follows:

- ❖ Never leave young children or babies in the bath unsupervised by an adult, even for a moment
- ❖ Never leave uncovered bowls or buckets of water around the home
- ❖ Paddling pools should be emptied and stored away when not in use
- ❖ Garden ponds should be filled in while children are small or securely fenced off. Take special care when visiting other people's gardens



Choking, suffocation and strangulation

Did you know there have been 18 child deaths by strangulation from looped blind cords since 2010?

The Child Accident Prevention Trust <http://www.capt.org.uk/> advises:

- ❖ Ensure babies sleep in a safe setting (see <https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/safer-sleep>)
- ❖ Tie up blind or curtain cords so there's no hanging loop.
- ❖ Do not prop feed babies with bottles
- ❖ Keep nappy sacks out of reach of babies
- ❖ Cut up big or unusually shaped food and supervise whilst eating
- ❖ Make sure small objects and other choking hazards are out of reach of babies and toddlers



Falls

Did you know falls lead to the most accident-related admissions for the under-fives? Nearly 20,000 each year in England.

The Child Accident Prevention Trust <http://www.capt.org.uk/> advises:

- ❖ Clear toys and clutter away to avoid tripping
- ❖ Use a 5 point safety harness in highchairs and prams
- ❖ Use safety gates
- ❖ Move things that children can climb on out of their cot and away from windows and balconies
- ❖ Secure windows and balconies appropriately
- ❖ Change nappies on the floor to avoid injuries from rolling off furniture
- ❖ Ensure that the risk to children of things falling on them is reduced, by appropriately securing furniture

Poisoning

Did you know medicines are the cause of over 70% of poisoning admissions?

The NHS <http://www.nhs.uk/> advises:

- ❖ Make sure all medicines, cleaning products, chemicals and potentially harmful cosmetics, such as nail varnish, are locked away out of the sight and out of reach of children
- ❖ When encouraging children to take medicine (when they're sick), don't refer to tablets as sweets
- ❖ Whenever possible, buy medicines that come in child-resistant containers
- ❖ Small batteries, such as those used for television remote controls, can be easily swallowed and may cause death, so keep them out of the reach of children