

CDOP NEWSLETTER

FOR PRACTITIONERS

MAY 2023

[Items for the newsletter are gathered from learning identified whilst reviewing cases at CDOP](#)

Inside this issue: *KBS Tools, Alcohol/Substance misuse, Child Safety week.*

Never, Ever Shake Your Baby

Launched March 2023. [Never, ever shake your baby video](#). Aims to inform and educate parents/carers on managing crying, understanding the vulnerability of a baby and the dangerous consequences of poor handling or shaking a baby.

The intention of the programme is to deliver a health education initiative with the aim to reduce the incidence of non-accidental head trauma in babies particularly by shaking in Derby City and Derbyshire. This will be done by:

- Increasing parents and carers awareness of the risks of rough handling and the risks and poor outcomes of shaking a baby
- Providing support and guidance on how to manage a crying baby and stressful situations
- Ensuring parents and carers are aware of where they can get help and support if required by signposting to relevant services
- All practitioners who have contact with families with babies having an awareness of the programme and the guidance contained within the Keeping Babies Safe Strategy.

There is also a [leaflet](#) available to give to parents/carers to support the detail / advice provided in the video.



All practitioners who have contact with families with babies need to understand the messages regarding safe handling and the management of crying and inform parents/carers.

GP 6-8 week check

At the 6-8 week check it is recommended that GP's discuss safe sleep and safe handling with parents/carers by providing them with some key statements and a supportive [leaflet](#).

Safer sleep:

- Babies should sleep on their back in a clutter free cot or Moses basket on a clean, flat mattress.
- The environment should be smoke free at all times.
- Never sleep with your baby on a sofa or chair and if you share your bed with your baby please follow the safety advice in the leaflet or from the Lullaby Trust.

Safe Handling:

- Crying is how babies communicate their needs. Some cry more than others. Crying can be stressful.
- Keep calm – try all your usual comforting measures (also see links on the leaflet), and if they don't help or you feel upset or agitated then put the baby in a safe sleep space and take a few minutes break. It's ok to ask for help from friends, family or your Health Visitor. It is important that your partner and anyone else who cares for your baby knows this information.
- Have you and your partner seen the video "never, ever shake your baby". If not please follow the link on the leaflet.

Every Baby Matters Tool

Launched January 2023. The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Childrens Partnership have commissioned Child Practice Reviews to consider the learning from cases where significant harm has occurred to babies. The recurring theme is that infants are intrinsically vulnerable and that practitioners need to identify the vulnerabilities of babies and their families at a much earlier stage to ensure that the needs of babies are being met and that all babies in Derby and Derbyshire remain safe and well cared for. The Every Baby Matters tool and guidance is to support practitioners who come into contact or work with families who have infants under a year old. The tool will give practitioners guidance on what to consider when having contact or visiting families with infants and some ideas of what to look for and how to gather information which may alert a practitioner to concerns or aid a further assessment of the family. This tool and guidance will not replace any other assessment tool or processes however it may help to enhance those assessments with a particular focus on the baby.

The tool can be used universally as an aid to gain an understanding of the lived experience of a baby within a family and can be used to support other assessment processes such as the Early Help Assessment.

The pack of resources include:

- [Guidance Document](#)
- [Resource poster](#) on the five key messages for Every Baby Matters – Identifying Vulnerability.
- The [Every Baby Matters Vulnerability Tool](#) to aid quality conversations and observations to enhance further assessment and support for families.

5 key messages of Every Baby Matters:

1. It matters that all babies are safe.
2. It matters that their needs are met immediately.
3. It matters that families feel supported.
4. It matters that we understand the relationship between babies and their parents/carers.
5. It matters that we understand any vulnerabilities or risks that affect a baby's care and development.



KBS Training & support

Level 2 e-learning course is available for any professional or volunteer who works directly or indirectly with parents, unborn babies or babies/children and is aimed at raising awareness of the vulnerability of babies to the risk of harm. [Click here to book.](#)

Level 3 virtual training is available for any professional or volunteer who works directly with parents, unborn babies or babies/children. Including those with particular and specialised responsibility for safeguarding children and young people who contribute to assessing, planning, intervening and reviewing the needs of a child where there are safeguarding concerns. [Click here to book.](#)

[DDSCP KBS page.](#) Includes links to the KBS strategy, tools and contact details for the KBS Champions within each service.

Co-Sleeping/Bed-Sharing Assessment Tool

Question	Y/N	Why this increases the risk
Do either you or your partner smoke? (including during pregnancy)		Smoking increases the risk of SIDS
Have you or your partner drunk alcohol in the past 24 hours?		Any alcohol use changes your sleep pattern and increases the risk of SIDS
Have you or your partner recently taken any drugs or prescribed medication that may make you sleepy?		Taking any drugs or prescribed medication that can make you sleepy increases the risk of accidental death whilst bedsharing
Are you or your partner very tired? (less than 4 hours sleep in 24 hours)		Excessive tiredness will affect your sleep pattern and is a risk if you bed share
Was your baby born early (before 37 weeks) or weighed less than 2.5kg or 5.5lbs		Babies who are born early or who are very small are at higher risk of SIDS
To reduce the risk of SIDS it is important not to bedshare in 'out of normal routine' situations. For example, if your baby is unwell and doesn't normally bedshare with you; staying with friends; when on holiday.		If it is not your normal routine to bedshare please consider if it is safe to do so by using this check list.

Launched May 2022. All families need to be risk assessed and know how to assess their own situation for bed-sharing. We want families who are identified as low risk to have all the information in order to make an informed decision about whether they wish to co-sleep safely and for those that are identified as high risk, not to co-sleep at all. The guidance document and assessment tool have been developed to support quality conversations around safer sleep and to support practitioners and families to make an informed choice and should be used in conjunction with all other safer sleep advice.

KBS Safer Sleep [Quality Conversations about Safer Sleep](#)

KBS Safer Sleep [Co-sleeping/Bed-sharing Assessment](#)

These documents replace previous versions of the Guidance to Support Safe Sleeping Practices in Babies and Infants which has been removed from the DDSCP Documents Library. Please use the tool with families and ensure they have a copy for their own information to use themselves.

Alcohol & Substance Misuse

Working with a parent who misuses alcohol/substances

[LDS19/OD20 child safeguarding practice review](#) highlighted some key learning related to substance misuse by carers:

- The importance of fully exploring and understanding the nature of any problems and the extent to which they are under control.
- Not relying on a carer's account of the amount and frequency of alcohol or drug use.
- Recognition that chaotic alcohol and substance misuse is, by definition, less predictable and can therefore present a greater risk than stable use.
- The importance of knowing what might precipitate unsafe alcohol or substance use in a carer with a chaotic pattern of usage.

[DDSCP pre-birth assessment protocol](#)

[DDSCP guidance](#) for gathering information & assessing the needs of children whose parents have drug/alcohol issues.

[Derby drug and alcohol recovery service](#) provides advice, support and treatment to help people make changes in their drug/alcohol use.

[Derbyshire Recovery Partnership](#) supports those who live in Derbyshire.

Working with a young person who misuses alcohol/substances

[Breakout](#) is Derby's drug & alcohol service for young people. Working with people under the age of 18 who would like advice, help and support for their drug/alcohol use.

[CGL](#) supports young people under the age of 19 in Derbyshire who are using drugs or alcohol and want some support. CGL can also provide targeted group work for young people who are using, vulnerable to, or at risk of substance misuse.

Who's in Charge?

Birmingham's hard-hitting campaign urging adults to remember to ask the critical question "[who's in charge?](#)" if they plan to drink alcohol while responsible for children. Launched in response to increasing concerns that growing numbers of babies and children are at risk of serious harm because of the way some parents and carers consume alcohol – both at home and at outdoor gatherings.

Useful links/resources

DDSCP Alcohol & Substance Misuse Level 3 Training: [Event List : Alcohol and Substance Misuse: Safeguarding Children \(Level 3\) \(event-booking.org.uk\)](#)

[Talk to Frank](#)—honest information about drugs.

[Re-solv](#)—overcoming gas and solvent use. Free training available.



Why does child safety matter?

For the poorest families

Children from the poorest families are **40% more likely** to have a serious accident.

Public Health England

At home

80% of accidents to **under 5s** happen at home. **1 child dies each week** from an accident at home.

Public Health England

In England & Wales

Accidents **kill more children** than anything else apart from cancer.

ONS mortality statistics

The theme for Child Safety Week 2023 is **Safety Made Simple**.

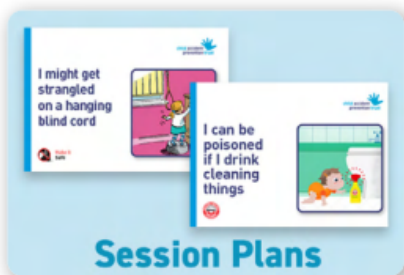
Accidents happen when there is a lot going on. Therefore accident prevention needs to be **simple**.

- **Simple** changes for parents to stop accidents.
- **Simple** ways for practitioners to get involved even when under pressure. [Free educational resources](#).

Resources to give parents (click on the images)



Activity resources (click on the images)



NEW! Dogs & Children: Top tips to keep them safe & happy together. Most dog bites happen to children at home. It is important for parents/families with a pet dog to have simple advice about how to keep their children safe.

Follow us @ChildAccidentPreventionTrust @capt_charity

Kayleigh McMahon

Lead Nurse for Child Death Reviews in Derby & Derbyshire
 kayleigh.mcmahon2@nhs.net
 07584 880720

For eCDOP issues please contact:
CDOP Coordinator
 01332 623700 ext 31540
 Dhcf.t.cdopderbyshire@nhs.net

Please get in touch with any questions/queries or comments.