

Each month we will be focusing on a different safeguarding theme to raise awareness and signpost to resources.



Image by FreeP!k

For April, our theme is
**Safeguarding Unborn Babies and
Under 2's**



#safeguardingbaby



Follow us on:



Or via email:

safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk



Contents

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Context of this theme



Local and National Reviews, together with other research findings, show that children under one year of age and in particular, very young babies, are extremely vulnerable to being seriously injured or to dying as a result of abuse or neglect.

Over the next slides we have highlighted some useful information and resources for you to view.



Local Learning from Local Reviews

In 2022, Swindon completed and published a thematic review into the assessment and safeguarding of infants prior to and following a non-accidental injury.

There is a dedicated webpage where you can find out more - [Safeguarding unborn babies, under 1's and working with fathers - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#) or use the QR code below.



The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel Report

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel commented in their annual report 2023-2024 that:

During 2023-24 under 1s were still experiencing the most harm and represented over a third of all Serious Incident Notifications. SUDI remains the most common likely cause of death.

Click on this link to read the report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-safeguarding-practice-review-panel-annual-report-2023-to-2024>



ICON Free Online Session for Professionals

- ✓ When babies cry it can be stressful and overwhelming.
- ✓ ICON is about helping people who care for babies to cope with crying and to help prevent abusive head trauma.
- ✓ Research points to persistent crying in babies as being a potential trigger for some parents/caregivers to lose control and shake a baby.
- ✓ It also shows that around 70% of babies who are shaken are shaken by men.

You can find out more about ICON cope, including:

- ✓ information, guidance and resources for parents/caregivers and
- ✓ professionals who are in contact/ supporting families with a baby can help.

Date and time: Wednesday 7th May 2025 – 0930 -1030. **Revised date**

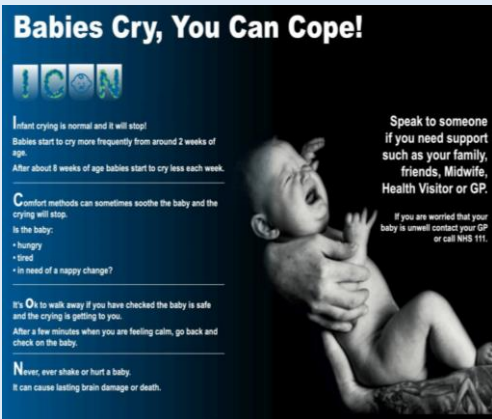
No need to book just click on the MS teams link below to join the session:

Join the meeting

Meeting ID: 315 739 138 49

Passcode: Qx695JH7

If you have any questions please contact Swindon Safeguarding Partnership via email:
safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk



Learning Event

Save The Date !

There will be another BSW Virtual Summit this year
Safeguarding unborn babies and under 1's

It is still in the early planning stages but the date has
been confirmed as 24th September 9-12:30 pm

Be sure to save the date and further information will
be published in due course.



Responding to suspected bruising in children

- The younger the child, the greater the risk that bruising is non-accidental and therefore there is a greater potential risk.
- Infants under the age of one are more at risk of being killed by another person, usually a carer, more than any other age group of children.

Resources to find out more:

- Webpage: [Safeguarding unborn babies, under 1's and working with fathers - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- Policy: [Pan BSW Policy on Unsuspected Bruising or Injuries in Children who are not Independently Mobile - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- Leaflet for parents/carers: [Bruising in Non-Mobile Infants leaflet - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- SSP Practice Brief [Suspected bruising on children - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)



**BABIES THAT
DON'T CRUISE
RARELY BRUISE**



Resources:

The Child Safeguarding Review Panel

- ✓ WEBINAR: The management of bruising in non-mobile infants (youtube.com) Recorded in March 2023 (duration 25 minutes) provides information about the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's briefing paper on bruising in non-mobile infants. This highlights the key findings and recommendations from the report.
- ✓ Panel Briefing 1 - The management of bruising in non-mobile infants paper - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) (September 2022)

Working with Fathers

- A new baby is a huge change for everyone in a family. This impacts on fathers as well as mothers. It is common for dads to experience low mood and anxiety when they have a new baby.
- National reviews published by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel **Out of Routine** (sudden unexpected death in infancy) and **The Myth of Invisible men: Safeguarding children under 1 from non-accidental injury**, highlighted how men are often the perpetrators of abuse but remain unseen or unassessed within safeguarding practice. For further information and resources regarding those reviews [click here](#).
- Resources to support working with fathers are included on the next slide.



Resources:

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel

- ✓ The Myth of Invisible men: Safeguarding children under 1 from non-accidental injury caused by male carers. published in September 2021 highlights how men are often the perpetrators of abuse but remain unseen or unassessed within safeguarding practice.
- ✓ Out of Routine, published in 2020 related to a review of sudden unexpected death in infancy.
- ✓ Webinar - Non-Accidental Injury of Children under 1 webinar – YouTube Recorded October 2021 (duration 55 minutes) informs safeguarding professionals about the Panel's third national review. This focussed on safeguarding children under 1 from non-accidental injury caused by male carers. This recording highlights the key findings and recommendations.



Resources: Working with Fathers

Below are some additional resources to support fathers.

- ✓ DadPad | The Essential Guide for New Dads | Support Guide for New Dads (thedadpad.co.uk): information and advice for new Dads to feel more confident about fatherhood.
- ✓ **Research in Practice (RIP)** free digital download: working effectively with men in families, gives practice pointers for including fathers in children's social care.
- ✓ **NSPCC (2022)**: Unseen men: learning from case reviews | NSPCC Learning
- ✓ SSP 7 Minute brief working with fathers
- ✓ Swindon Local Offer - For dads: information for new fathers where they may be struggling with their mental health.
- ✓ Working with male carers to reduce non-accidental injury to infants under 1 year old - Foundations explores current practice and the evidence base relating to working with fathers to reduce non-accidental injury (NAI) in infants under 1 year old.

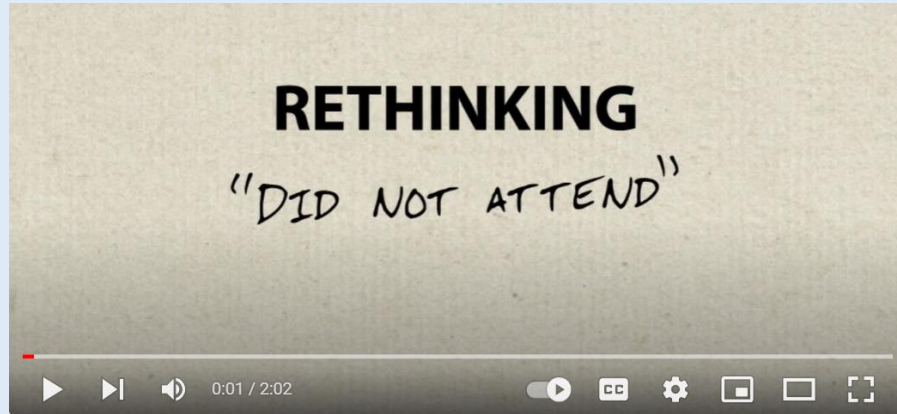


Support for parents/carers

- **Swindon Local Offer - Health Visitor Introduction** Health Visitors encourage, empower and support parents, guardians and carers to ensure the healthy development of their children
- **Swindon Family Nurse Partnership:** a voluntary, preventative, home visiting programme for first-time young mums and families. A one minute guide about the service and contact details on Swindon Local Offer - Early Help Services
- **Swindon Local Offer - Growbaby Swindon:** provides free baby clothes, toiletries, baby equipment and food and formula for children between the ages of 0-5 years.
- Further information for parents and parents-to-be can be found on the Swindon Local Offer webpage
- **Birth to Five booklet** - Birth to five | HSC Public Health Agency (hscni.net)
- Services and support for parents - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
- Where can I go for support for my mental health as a new parent? | Healthwatch
- Support for parents | NSPCC



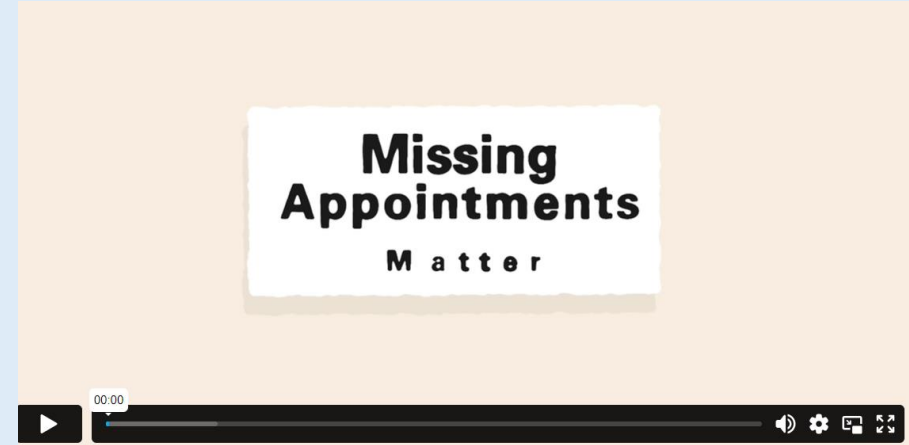
Rethinking Did Not Attend - Missing Appointments Matter



Promotes use of 'Was Not Brought' instead of 'Did Not Attend' when referring to children not being presented at medical appointments.

Commissioned by Nottingham City Council, NHS Nottingham City CCG and the NCSCB.

Link to access: [Rethinking 'Did Not Attend' – YouTube](#) (2017, duration 2 minutes)



[Missing Appointments Matter](#) is aimed at raising awareness about the consequences of missing appointments and to ensure that children and adults get the medical care that they need.

Commissioned by NHS Nottingham City CCG

Link to access: [Missing Appointments Matter FINAL on Vimeo](#) (duration 2:23 minutes)

For subtitled version: [A subtitled version of the video is also available here.](#)



Resources to support practitioners in understanding vulnerability and protective factors for parents

- Use of the vulnerability and protective factors in pregnancy to early parenthood practical resource is encouraged.
- This helps professionals to increase their awareness of the breadth of factors that may impact on the development of unborn children and infants.
- This ensures families receive the support they need to give children in Swindon the best start in life.
- It includes a summary page with information on application in practice, which can be used as a stand alone resource.
- To access click on this link: [Vulnerability and protective factors in pregnancy to early parenthood - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)



If you have concerns

Children and Families Contact Swindon provides a single point of contact to request help and support for families or report safeguarding concerns for a child.

Further information can be found on this webpage:

[Request for help and support guidelines and contact information - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

FAQ's: [SBC - Contact Swindon FAQs - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

Please also refer to the revised [The Right Help at the Right Time - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)



SSP Policy and Procedures

- Pan BSW Policy on Unsuspected Bruising or Injuries in Children who are not Independently Mobile - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership
- Leaflet for parents/carers: Bruising in Non-Mobile Infants leaflet - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership
- BSW Multi-agency pre-birth protocol to safeguard unborn babies - October 2024 - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership
- Multi-Agency Process for the Resolution of Professional Disagreements Relating to Safeguarding Protection of Children - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership
- Think Family Practice Guidance - November 2023 - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership
- Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI) Policy
- Sudden unexplained death in infancy (SUDI) prevention guidance and pathway



Useful Swindon Safeguarding Partnership Resources

Swindon Safeguarding Partnership (SSP) dedicated webpages:

- ✓ [Safeguarding unborn babies, under 1's and working with fathers - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- ✓ [Neglect - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

SSP 7-minute briefs and practice briefs:

- ✓ [Resource pack - professional curiosity](#)
- ✓ [Safeguarding unborn babies - 7-minute brief](#)
- ✓ [Capturing the voice of the child in records](#)
- ✓ [SSP practice brief - Working with resistance or disguised compliance - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- ✓ [Safeguarding children – Oral Health - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

Video Archive: Recorded Webinar '*Learning from case reviews and audits: Vulnerability of under 1's*'. October 2021. Themes include Suspected injuries to mobile and non-mobile babies, Brief Unresolved Events, ICON, Working with Fathers. Access the recording and presentation slides click on this link [Video archive - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)



Free eLearning

This resource aids understanding of how babies, toddlers and young children develop, the adult role in supporting the development of all babies, toddlers and young children and how the environment supports child development.

This will be relevant to any professional working with children/families across the partnership.

To access the eLearning click on this link: [Supporting and Exploring Child Development \(awareness level\) - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)





There are a range of resources and information for professionals and parents/carers on the website [Home - ICON Cope](#)

You can also register for free e-learning, click on the link below:
[ICON eLearning – Babies cry, you can cope](#)

Other resources

Child Safety Week 2025: Monday 2nd to Sunday 8th June

Child Accident Prevention Trust have a range of resources / information focusing on preventing death and serious injury to children from avoidable accidents.

[Free educational resources | Child Accident Prevention Trust \(capt.org.uk\)](https://capt.org.uk)





The Lullaby Trust

Safer Sleep Week promoted by The Lullaby Trust – 10th to 16th March 2025 you can find out more on this webpage: [Safer Sleep Week | The Lullaby Trust](https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/baby-safety/travel-and-weather/safer-sleep-on-holiday/)

There are a range of resources available for parents/carers and professionals: [Home | The Lullaby Trust](https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/baby-safety/travel-and-weather/safer-sleep-on-holiday/)

Webpage: [Baby sleep patterns | The Lullaby Trust](https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/baby-safety/travel-and-weather/safer-sleep-on-holiday/) – you can also download the poster.

Safer Sleep on Holiday: Easter is fast approaching and there is some useful information about safer sleep on holiday - Lullaby Trust - <https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/baby-safety/travel-and-weather/safer-sleep-on-holiday/>

Baby sleep patterns

the lullaby trust

You might feel that you should help your baby to sleep for longer or through the night. However, it is normal for babies under one (or sometimes older) to wake during the night.

Babies' sleep patterns are different to adults' and change over the first few years.

Young babies will wake frequently to be fed. Night waking can be really hard, so asking for help and making a plan for how to cope can really help.

Encouraging babies to sleep for longer and more deeply for their stage of development may affect their ability to wake up if something is wrong, such as if their mouth and nose become covered. This is a risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

How much do babies sleep?

Newborn
Your baby may sleep for anywhere between eight to 18 hours a day, but only for two to three hours at a time.

3-6 months
Your baby may sleep for longer periods now as they need fewer night feeds. Some babies may sleep for eight hours or longer at night, but not all will.

6-12 months
Your baby may sleep for up to 12 hours at night but factors like teething, illness or hunger may mean they wake more frequently again.

Around a third of babies will have never slept all night by 12 months. All babies are different and their sleep patterns will change, so try not to compare your baby to others. If you are really worried about your babies' sleep pattern, ask your midwife, health visitor or GP for support.

For more advice on safer sleep for babies visit: [lullabytrust.org.uk](https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk)

Remember: Sleeping your baby in the same room as you for at least the first six months helps to reduce the risk of SIDS

The poster was produced with support from Bupa. www.bupa.co.uk

lullabytrust.org.uk
support@lullabytrust.org.uk
0800 802 4447
Reg charity number: 241191



Other information/resources

- **Transforming pre-birth work: Insights and resources for better outcomes** Research in practice have some useful information on this topic
[Transforming pre-birth work | Research in Practice](#)
- The government has updated the Homelessness Code of Guidance to include cots for children aged under two in temporary accommodation -
<https://www.insidehousing.co.uk/news/homelessness-guidance-changed-to-ensure-babies-have-a-cot-in-temporary-accommodation-85433>
- [What is safeguarding in early years? | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [Infants: learning from case reviews | NSPCC Learning](#)



Babies and Domestic Abuse

- Information and resources about breaking the cycle of domestic abuse and giving babies the best start [Home - For Baby's Sake \(forbabyssake.org.uk\)](http://forbabyssake.org.uk)
- **Free webinar** - Building Emotional Safety: Self-Care Strategies for Working with those Affected by Domestic Abuse: Tuesday 8th April - 14:00 - 15:00 BST
- Join [The For Baby's Sake Trust](#) and [Innovating Minds](#) for a vital conversation on emotional safety, vicarious trauma, and self-care for practitioners supporting those affected by domestic abuse. Find out more and to book a place [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)
- Women's Aid Toolkit: <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Supporting-women-and-babies-after-domestic-abuse.pdf>



Email signature

If appropriate please add the text below to your email signature

Swindon Safeguarding Partnership's Theme for April 2025 is
Safeguarding Unborn Babies and Under 2's

Find out more by visiting the SSP Events webpage

[Events - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)



or follow us on

@SwindonSafegua1

**Safeguarding
Baby**

#safeguardingbaby



And finally...

Please let us know if the information and resources have been helpful to you.

You can give us your feedback by clicking on the link below
<https://forms.office.com/e/V2tFtjj8eB>
or scanning the QR code.



It will take you two minutes!



Are you on our circulation list?

Do you want to be kept updated about SSP related matters such as training, learning resources and our newsletter?

You can sign up to our circulation list circulation list by clicking on this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/f7CRNF6Wax>

Or using the QR code.



You can ask to be removed at any time by emailing safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk

