



Keeping Children & Young People Safe in B&NES

Welcome to our 6th edition!

'Keeping Children Safe' is a priority within the 2018-2021 Children and Young Peoples Plan. In order to support your practice in contributing towards the outcome of '**decreasing the number of children and young people affected by unintended or accidental injury**' we hope you find this quarterly newsletter helpful.

Child Safety Week 3rd—9th June



Child Safety Week is the flagship annual campaign run by the Child Accident Prevention Trust.

This year's theme is **Family life today: where's the risk?** It highlights the new dangers in the home including things like button batteries, particularly lithium cell coin batteries that can kill when swallowed, child-appealing washing capsules or e-cigarette fluid that can poison if swallowed. It also provides a chance to remind families to re-focus for child safety from distraction from devices such as phones and tablets and provides a focal point for families to share experiences and talk about child safety with the people around them.

Some top tips for getting involved:

Some top tips for getting involved:

- **Download this year's free [Action Pack](#) or the [parent and carer pack](#)** for information and advice linked to the common injuries among children and young people including; poisoning, falls, burns and scolds, drowning, road safety and stopping breathing. A [home and garden safety checklist](#) is available on the ROSPA website and is useful tool to work through with families, to recognise any risks or dangers within the home.
- **Support families to anticipate problems and build their confidence** - many accidents happen when parents are taken by surprise by the next stage of their child's development. Help families make the link between childhood accidents and child development, so they can anticipate problems and stay one step ahead and feel confident about identifying problems. A [guidance document](#) for staff working with children under 5 is available to support these conversations.
- ♦ **Support families to identify goals** - ask families to be specific about any goals or changes they are going to make. Then help them to plan and visualise what they will do, thinking through when they can do it, how long it will take and any barriers that might get in the way.

Useful sources of information, support and advice:

- ♦ www.rosa.com ROSPA (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) - information on [preventing accidents](#) in the home , [product safety](#), and a [home and garden safety](#) checklist
- ♦ www.nspcc.org.uk NSPCC— [online safety](#) and staying [safe away from the home](#) for children, young people and parents and carers
- ♦ www.buywisebesafe Buy Wise, Be Safe — information to support informed purchases enabling families to buy with confidence when choosing equipment for children aged five and under
- ♦ www.goodeggcarsafety.com Good Egg Car Safety — information on car seat safety, including a [car seat selector](#) guide
- ♦ www.lullabytrust.org.uk Lullaby Trust— Safer Sleep for babies and support and advice for families
- ♦ **British Red Cross First Aid app** — Advice on 18 everyday first aid scenarios, as well as tips on how to prepare for emergencies
- ♦ **HANDi App aims** — Provides advice and support to parents and carers when children are unwell, what to do and who to contact
- ♦ **Car Seat safety Clinics**, B&NES Council Road Safety Team are running three car seat safety clinics this summer. The events are free to attend and there is no need to book an appointment. Families can pop along to the venue to have their seat checked for safety and fit. Events run from 10.00-16.00, venues and dates include:
 - ⇒ 24th June, Argos, 32 High Street Midsomer Norton, BA3 2DW
 - ⇒ 10th July, Argos, Upper Bristol Road, Bath, BA1 3AT
 - ⇒ 18th September, Sainsbury's, Frome Road, Odd Down, Bath, BA2 5RF



Home safety visits and equipment:

There is a **home safety equipment scheme** for families on a low income with children under 5 who meet certain eligibility criteria. If you think a family might qualify for free home safety equipment or may need specific advice around safety within the home, please speak to their health visitor. The general Health Visitor number is: 0117 831794 .



Avon Fire and Rescue Service carry out FREE home fire safety visits to provide advice relevant to your circumstances and fit free smoke alarms if required among eligible residents in B&NES—call 0117 926 2061 or Text 'Visit' to 07507 319 694 to book a visit

Electronic cigarette safety information:

Using e-cigarettes (or vaping) is **considerably less harmful** than smoking tobacco cigarettes, because the dangers associated with smoking come from the inhalation / exposure to the tobacco smoke, which contains thousands of dangerous chemicals.

E-cigarettes in contrast do not contain, nor burn tobacco. Instead they heat a solution containing nicotine, flavourings and other additives, which deliver nicotine vapour to the user.

There is growing evidence that the liquid nicotine refills from e-cigarettes pose a significant poisoning risk to young children.

Nicotine is highly toxic through ingestion, inhalation or skin contact, especially for young children. Ingestion of only a tiny amount can be fatal.

We advise users of e-cigarettes to keep nicotine-containing products away from children, especially very young children and toddlers, who are more susceptible to nicotine poisoning.

- ✓ **Always keep e-cigarettes and e-liquids out of the reach of children to avoid accidental poisoning**
- ✓ **Keep handbags containing nicotine products out of reach of children**

Exploding chargers

The Trading Standards Institute advise users that e-cigarettes should not be left charging for long periods of time.

How to ensure electronic cigarette safety:

- ✓ **Always use the correct charger for your e-cigarette device**
- ✓ **Avoid leaving e-cigarettes charging overnight because they can overheat and they may catch fire**
- ✓ **Do not leave e-cigarettes unattended even when they are not 'alight'**
- ✓ **Ensure e-cigarettes are purchased from a reputable UK retailer**

Anyone who wants to inform Trading Standards of an issue can do so via the consumer service on 03454 04 05 06.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and if you require any further information please do get in touch with us:

Claire Davies (Health Improvement Officer, Children and Young People, Public Health)
Claire_Davies@bathnes.gov.uk