

## **Safeguarding Children**

### **Your safety, our commitment to you**

As a Trust we take the responsibility of safeguarding children seriously and to comply with these requirements we ensure that we can maintain your / your child's safety whilst in our care. To do this we carry out DBS checks of all staff and all staff are required to undertake relevant child safeguarding training which is regularly reviewed to ensure it is up to date.

We audit our policy and procedures to ensure compliance and this is presented to the Board. We have a dedicated team of staff who have specialist expertise in safeguarding children and are available to all staff for advice and guidance. Our safeguarding arrangements comply with current national guidance and requirements set by the CQC - Care Quality Commission. The Trust adheres to its statutory duties in line with Section 11 of the Children Act 1989.

### **Child protection is everyone's responsibility...the difference between child abuse and child protection could be you!**

Any member of staff may come into contact with, or hear about, a child who is being abused or neglected and/or an adult who may be harming a child. It is therefore very important that everyone knows what to do if they are concerned about the safety and welfare of a child.

To help all staff meet the needs of vulnerable children, Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has a team of doctors and nurses who have specialist expertise in safeguarding children.

#### **Southend University Hospital Tel No: 01702 435555**

Director of Nursing Denise Townsend

Designated Doctor – Dr Shrivastava

Named Doctor Dr Naina Emcy

Named Nurse Safeguarding Children – Susan Kent

Child Protection Nurse Specialists - Marion Shea / Kate Sheehan

Specialist Safeguarding Midwife - Beth Nakhlah

Liaison Health Visitor- Helen Rhodes

These professionals can provide all staff with advice, support and training.

The Trust has Child Protection Policies and Procedures, which are available to all staff on the hospital intranet (under Clinical Applications – see "Child protection Referral and Information" page).

#### **The Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) Child Protection Procedures (2018)**

The SET procedures have been produced to achieve greater consistency in child protection practice across the county. Every member of staff has access to a copy of this via the Hospital intranet.

If you are concerned about the safety or welfare of a child in South East Essex you can contact:

**Children's Social Care, Children and Families Area Offices**

- Essex Social Care – 0345 603 7627
- Out of Hours/Emergency Duty Team (EDT) - 0345 606 1212
- Southend Social Care First Contact - 01702 215783
- Out of hours/Emergency Duty Team (EDT) 0845 606 1212

**NSPCC 24 hour Helpline 0808 800 5000**

If you have concerns about the immediate safety of a child ring 999 and ask for the Police and/or an ambulance if the child is in need of immediate medical care.