

Why we ask who comes to hospital with a child or young person

Safeguarding Children Team

Information for Patients

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Introduction

Doctors and nurses must help keep children safe. One way they do this is by checking who brings a child to the hospital. This helps them understand if the child is safe and getting the right care.

Important rules that help keep children safe

Children Act (1989 and 2004):

- These laws say that adults must protect children and help them stay well.
- Hospital staff can ask questions to make sure the child is safe, like who is taking care of them.

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023):

- This guide helps different services (like schools, hospitals, and social workers) work together to protect children.
- It says it is important to know who lives with the child and who brings them to hospital.

Health and Social Care Act (2012):

- This law says hospital staff must care for people who might be at risk, like children.
- It also says hospital staff can share important information with other professionals if a child might be in danger.

Data Protection Laws (GDPR and 2018 Act):

- These laws help keep personal information safe. But if a child might be at risk, hospital staff can collect and share information to help protect them.

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NHS Safeguarding Guidelines:

- These rules say hospitals should write down who comes with a child, especially if the child has injuries that are not explained or comes to hospital a lot. If staff are worried, they must follow special steps to keep the child safe.

What this means for you

Questions you will be asked

- Staff will ask who came with the child and how they know them (for example a parent, carer, family member).
- They might ask if the child has a social worker. This helps make sure the social worker knows about the child's health.

Writing down information

- Staff will write down who came with the child.
- This is done on a computer system or on paper, depending on where you are in the hospital.

Sharing information

- If social care is helping the child or family, the hospital will tell them about the visit. This helps everyone working with the child know what is going on and how to help.

If staff are worried

- If something does not seem right (like injuries that do not match the story or someone new bringing the child), staff will follow special rules to keep the child safe.

Contact details

You can contact the Safeguarding Children Team at: **0116 258 5770**

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
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