

Keeping children safe during lockdown

With the pressures on the NHS, many parents are worried about a trip to A&E with their child. With the home being an accident hotspot for younger children, it is good to know there are small things you can do that make a big difference.

If you put these things high up out of harm's way (and curious little hands), you are winning when it comes to keeping your child safe:

Hot things: like drinks and hair straighteners or wands - decide where your safe spots are that you can put hot things down out of reach.

Cleaning things: we've never been so clean, but make sure it's all stored safely away.

Button batteries: they can do a lot of harm to a child's insides if swallowed, so check products, spares and flats and put them out of reach.

Children and animals: Here are tips from the RSPCA for keeping children safe and dogs happy whilst everyone is at home and in much closer proximity -

www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/pets/dogs/company/children



Wires and cords: Wires and blind cords - particularly looped cords - are dangerous to young children and babies. They can cause strangulation and MUST be kept short and out of reach. For further information click on the link www.ncmd.info/2020/06/15/safe-guarding-notice-blindcords/

Unfortunately a Norfolk toddler was suffocated by baby monitor cord as described in the article here: www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-47694770

Keep in touch for more safety tips via the following resources:

www.facebook.com/ChildAccidentPreventionTrust

www.capt.org.uk/Listing/Category/safety-in-lockdown

www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/coronavirus-parents-working-from-home/

www.rosipa.com/home-safety/Advice/Safe-At-Home

NCMD briefing: Child suicide during COVID-19

The National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) has released a briefing on child death by suicide in England during lockdown. Commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) on behalf of NHS England, Child Suicide Rates during the COVID-19 Pandemic in England: Real-time Surveillance, describes the findings from its real-time surveillance system (which was set up to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic).

"This report is the result of a huge collaborative effort, and shows what can be achieved if we all work together quickly and purposefully. It demonstrates the value of the child death review process and the impact it can have on improving children's lives," Dr Karen Luyt, NCMD Programme Lead

More specifically, they identified likely suicides between 1 January 2020 and 17 May 2020, and compared rates before and during

lockdown (a comparison was also made with deaths occurring at a similar time in 2019). However, it is important to note, as child suicides are rare, that the analysis is based on small case numbers - meaning that they were unable to reach definitive conclusions.

This report does find, among the likely suicide deaths reported after lockdown, that restriction to education and other activities, disruption to care and support services, tensions at home and isolation appeared to be contributing factors. As such, it confirms the need for continued vigilance and support for children and young people during periods of physical distancing, particularly among those previously known to mental health services.

To read the report in full, use the link below:

www.ncmd.info/2020/07/09/suicide-covid

Lift the Baby Campaign

Please continue to share the Lift the Baby video produced by London Irish Rugby Club, Berkshire West CCG, East Berkshire CCG and a range of health partners.

The video is aimed at promoting safer sleeping in younger babies. A special website has been developed in partnership with the Lullaby Trust and features a link to the video along with a range of safe sleeping advice - please share with your teams.

www.liftthebaby.org.uk



Water safety and window safety for parents and carers

www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlcz2q7TaJA

The video has been made in response to increasing concerns about the distractions of mobile phones in particular and how use of electronic devices may impact on risks to supervision of babies and children. We are conscious that many children are at home, the weather is good and water play will increase during Covid.



Pan Berkshire CDOP:

Website Update

The CDOP website has been revised and moved to Berkshire West CCG.

www.berkshirewestccg.nhs.uk/cdop

Reporting a child death via eCDOP

Since 1 April 2019 Pan Berkshire eCDOP has been live and all notifications of a child death must be made via this link which anyone can access

<https://www.ecdop.co.uk/panberkshire/live/Public>