

# The Community Paediatric Palliative Care Team

## Information and advice for parents and carers

The Community Paediatric Palliative Care Team provide care for children and young people aged 0 – 18, who have a condition that will cause them to die before they reach adult life.

### Who are the Community Paediatric Palliative Care Team?

The palliative care team is a part of the community paediatric nursing team and consists of:

- a paediatric consultant
- children's nurses
- specially trained community children's nurses
- specially trained palliative care children's nurses
- a play specialist
- health care assistants

Your child will be allocated a key worker who is a member of the team. Your child's key worker can help you with any questions or requests you have.

### What do the Community Paediatric Palliative Care Team do?

The team can offer you a variety of services depending on your needs, such as:

- regular home visits from team members
- advice and support
- respite care at home 7 days a week
- 24 hour telephone support and advice during the terminal stage
- bereavement support

We can also refer your child to other agencies and voluntary groups who can offer support.

The care we offer your child will be planned with you and your child according to your family's needs. Brothers and sisters are welcome to participate in a play session but a parent/guardian must be on the premises.

### What is respite care?

Respite care is where one of our team will come to your home to care for your child, so that you can take a break from the responsibility of caring for them. Respite care is available any day of the week.

The team will try to fulfil all respite care commitments but there may be some occasions where respite is cancelled because another child and family needs more urgent care.

If your child becomes ill during a period of respite, the carer will act in the way previously agreed with you in the plan or agreement of care.

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## Can special respite dates be requested?

Respite dates can be requested and we will try our best to meet them, depending on the availability of the carers. If you would like to request respite you will need to contact your key worker.

## How is a child referred to the Community Paediatric Palliative Care Team?

Children who are registered with a Sandwell GP can be referred to our team by a consultant paediatrician, GP, health visitor, School nurse or Paediatric Community Nurse.

## How to contact us

### Community Paediatric Palliative Care Team

0121 507 2633

Mobile: 07779328464 or 07773427431

A member of the team will be available for telephone advice Monday – Friday, 8.30am - 6pm and Saturdays 8.30am - 4.30pm.

During the end stage of a child's life a member of the team will be available for telephone advice Monday – Saturday, 8.30am – 10pm.

If no one is available to take your call you can leave a message on our answering machine and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

**Please do not leave urgent messages on the answering machine.** If your call is urgent please contact one of the following wards or the emergency services:

### Lyndon Ground Ward

0121 507 3266

### Lyndon 1 Ward

0121 507 3319

If you would like to suggest any amendments or improvements to this leaflet please contact the communications department on 0121 507 5420 or email: [swb-tr.swbh-gm-patient-information@nhs.net](mailto:swb-tr.swbh-gm-patient-information@nhs.net)



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