

Safeguarding children declaration

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and its integrated Community services is fully committed to ensuring that all patients including children are cared for in a safe, secure and caring environment. The Trust adheres to its statutory duties in line with Section 11 of the Children Act. A number of safeguarding children arrangements are in place in order to support this.

These include:

- Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust meets statutory requirements in relation to Disclosure and Barring (DBS) checks – all staff employed at the Trust undergo a DBS check prior to employment and those working with children undergo an enhanced level of assessment.
- The Trust Child Protection policies and systems are up to date and robust and are reviewed on a regular basis, ultimately by the Trust Board. The last policy review occurred in May 2014 and is due for renewal in 2017. Policies and procedures are available to staff through a dedicated safeguarding children intranet site.
- The Trust has a process in place for following up children who miss outpatient appointments within any speciality to ensure their care and health is not affected in any way.
- The Trust has a system in place for flagging children who are subject to a child protection plan. The Trust is working to the implementation of the national Child Protection Information Sharing System (CP-IS) with a plan that this will be implemented by September 2017.
- All eligible staff are required to undertake relevant safeguarding training and this is regularly reviewed to ensure it is up to date. The Trust has a training strategy in place with regard to delivering safeguarding training.
- The percentage compliance of training at 14 May 2017 is as follows against a target of 80%:

	Compliance training figures
Level 1	98%
Level 2	84.73%
Level 3	82.62%

Safeguarding Professionals

The Trust has Named Safeguarding Professionals who lead on issues in relation to the safeguarding of children. They are clear about their role, have sufficient time and receive relevant support, and training, to undertake their roles, which includes close contact with other social and health care organisations. The total number of professionals in these roles is 17.9 WTE which includes health representation at the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) within Lambeth and Southwark. The breakdown of staff which is broken down by discipline and provider as follows:

	GSTT Acute	GSTT Community
Head of Nursing/ Trust Named Nurse	1.0 WTE	
Nurse / Midwife	5.0 WTE	10.7 WTE
Named Doctor	0.5 WTE	0.7 WTE

The safeguarding team is also supported by two liaison Health Visitors who review and monitor children's attendances to hospital. In addition to the Safeguarding Professionals the Trust has a team dedicated to the health needs of Looked after Children.

The Chief Nurse is the Executive Director lead for Safeguarding Children. Delegated responsibility for the safeguarding of children is to the Director of Nursing for Evelina London Children's Hospital.

The Trust's Vulnerable Person Assurance Committee leads and supports all safeguarding activity and ensures that the Trust executes its statutory duties in relation to safeguarding of children and adults.

The Trust Board takes the issue of safeguarding extremely seriously and receives a quarterly and an annual report on safeguarding children issues. The annual report for 2016-17 was presented to the Board of Directors, Quality and Performance Committee on the 12 April 2017.

The Trust continues to be an active member of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs). This is through membership and work of the Boards and the sub committees. Any issues related to safeguarding children will be discussed at these Boards each quarter.

The Trust has an audit programme to provide assurance that safeguarding systems and processes are working. In addition to single agency audits the Trust takes part in multi-agency audits with partner agencies.

The Trust continues to review and challenge its arrangements in order to support safe and consistent practice, adhere to its statutory duties and will respond positively and assertively to any changing guidance and national reviews.

May 2017.