



**University Hospitals Birmingham**  
NHS Foundation Trust



# Solihull Children's Community Nursing team

Palliative Care

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# Palliative care

## What is palliative care?

Palliative care is the active and total approach to care, from the point of diagnosis or recognition of a life limiting illness, embracing physical, emotional, social and spiritual elements. It focuses on enhancement of quality of life for the child/young person and support for the family and includes the management of symptoms.

The Children's Community Nursing team provide palliative care for children and young people with life-limiting conditions and their families in the home, working in partnership with all the health professionals involved with the child and other agencies.

## What is our referral criteria for palliative care?

The team accepts any child aged between 0-18 years with a nursing need. A hospital consultant, paediatrician or GP will have identified the child as having a life limiting condition or having entered the palliative phase of their illness. All referrals are discussed with the Childrens Community Nursing Team and assessed on an individual basis so that the most appropriate support can be provided.

## Who can make a referral?

The team will accept referrals from GP's, health professionals and hospital consultants regarding palliative care.

## The team aims to:

- Take an holistic approach to care, aiming to meet the needs of both child/young person and family
- Regularly assess, review and evaluate care on an individual basis, ensuring you are involved in decisions that are made
- Offer 24 hour on call end of life care
- Offer support for the entire family (including siblings, grandparents and the extended family)
- Give practical help, advice and information about symptoms to expect and how we will manage them
- Provide nursing care and support in the family home or co-ordinate services to facilitate care elsewhere such as a local hospice or hospital if this is your choice
- Support the provision of specialist therapies, including physiotherapy, speech & language therapists, play and music therapy
- Provide information, support, education and training to carers, where needed
- Liaise with your community paediatrician, hospital consultant and GP involved in your child's care in order to assess what needs your child and your family have and to discuss what support you would like
- Address the psychological and spiritual aspects of care
- Offer a support system to help children live as actively as possible
- Provide choice to your child and your family, involving everyone in decisions about palliative care using your Advanced Care Plan document where appropriate
- Act as an advocate for the child and family

## Contact Us

We are based in Shirley, Solihull and help to support children throughout the whole of the Solihull borough.

Our normal working hours are Monday- Friday 8am – 6.30pm.  
Saturday and Bank Holiday 9am -1pm (excluding Christmas Day)  
The CCN main office number is 0121 746 4436  
There is an answerphone facility on this number 24 hours a day.  
Messages that are left out of service hours will be dealt with the next working day.

We aim to offer 24 hour nursing on- call care for palliative care patients to support end of life care.

## Feedback

We welcome comments and suggestions about how we are doing as we are committed to improving our service. You may be asked to complete a Patient Satisfaction questionnaire during your involvement with the CCN Team.

We also offer a Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS). This is a confidential service for families to help with any questions or concerns about local health services, your named nurse will be able to give you further information about these options.