

e. Non-Mobile Baby Policy

Our Aims:

- To ensure the most vulnerable group of children's needs are met.
- To ensure increased care and awareness of the needs of non-mobile babies.

Policy

Not Independently Mobile: a baby who is not crawling, bottom shuffling, pulling to stand, cruising or walking independently. Includes all children under the age of six months and any children with a disability who are not able to move independently.

The younger the child, the greater the risk that any bruising is non-accidental and the greater potential risk of future harm. Please be aware that non-mobile babies are unable to roll independently.

Bruising: blood coming out of the blood vessels into the soft tissues, producing a temporary, discolouration of skin that does not fade when pressed (non-blanching), however faint or small with or without other skin abrasions or marks. Colouring may vary from yellow through green to brown or purple. This includes petechiae, which are tiny red or purple non-blanching spots, less than two millimetres in diameter and often in clusters.

Minor injuries: may include (but are not confined to) grazing; abrasions; minor cuts; blisters; injuries such as bruises, scratches, burns or scalds, eye injuries, bleeding from the nose or mouth, bumps to the head.

Any evidence of physical injury in an immobile infant will require a Cause For Concern Form and a Family Incident Report (On Arrival).

Follow our [Safeguarding Policy](#) and call the Community Paediatrics Team via 111 or in a serious situation refer to our [Serious Accident & Emergency Policy](#) and call 999.

REMEMBER: An older infant with any of the above findings would also warrant CAREFUL consideration.

Where the professional has identified that a referral should be made to the Emergency Department or Community Paediatrician, the baby's parent or carer should be informed that a person with parental responsibility will be required to attend with their baby or at the very least give consent for a medical examination to take place.