

# Child Safety Week

The Child Accident Prevention Trust's Child Safety Week is back in June (5-11<sup>th</sup>) this year with the theme of 'Safe children: Sharing is Caring'.



The idea behind this theme is that we all have experience or knowledge of accidents and unintentional injuries and sharing that experience with others may help to prevent similar ones. More information on the week can be found at [www.childsafetyweek.org.uk](http://www.childsafetyweek.org.uk)

Unintentional Injuries are those which are preventable and with appropriate measures in place can be avoided. Although we cannot prevent all injuries we can take steps to reduce the risk of them happening. Children need to explore, play and start to 'risk assess' for themselves, however, careful supervision, the use of safety equipment, an improved awareness and consideration of the risks may contribute to fewer childhood injuries.

## Why is childhood injury prevention a priority?

- Injury remains the most frequent cause of death in children (NICE 2016) and are a major cause of disability and poor health (PHE, 2014)
- In England between 2008-2012 unintentional injuries in and around the home accounted for around 452,000 A&E attendances, 40,000 hospital admissions and 62 deaths each year as a result of such injuries. (PHE, 2014)
- Analysis identifies that the rate of injuries is associated with levels of deprivation. The rate of emergency hospital admissions among the under-fives is higher for children living in the most deprived areas than those living in the least deprived areas. (PHE, 2014)
- In England between 2012-2014 1521 children aged 6-10 and 2974 children aged 11-15 in were killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents. (PHOF, 2017)

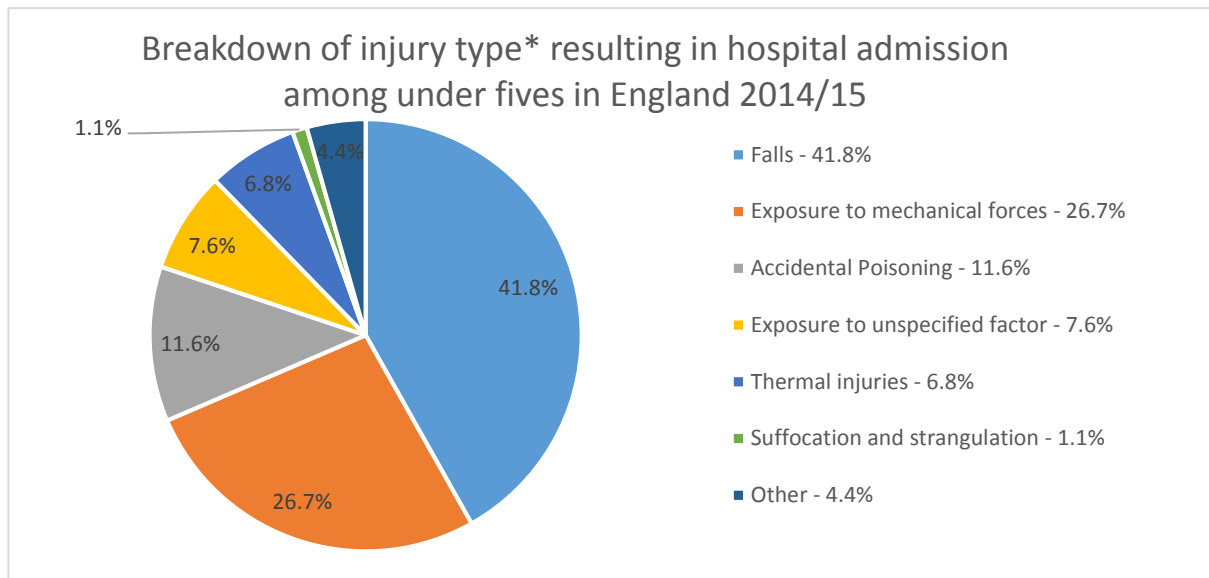
Public Health England (2014) proposed a focus on five causes of injury for the under 5's. These injury types result in the most severe and preventable injuries as well as the ones resulting in the highest number of hospital admissions and deaths.

- Choking, Suffocation and strangulation

South Gloucestershire  
**CHIP**  
Child Injury  
Prevention Group



- Falls
- Poisoning
- Burns and Scalds
- Drowning



Further information on injury types for both parents/carers

<http://sites.southglos.gov.uk/safeguarding/children/i-am-a-parentcarer/child-accident-prevention/> and professionals <http://sites.southglos.gov.uk/safeguarding/children/i-am-a-professional/child-injury-prevention/> can be found on the injury prevention pages of SG Safeguarding Children board website

### What can we do to support families?

- Share your knowledge and experience of the benefits of using safety equipment
- Raise the issue of and encourage an awareness of child development
- Encourage families to consider the risks of injuries and share your knowledge of the hazards and injury types
- Share your knowledge of the importance of supervising and monitoring children
- Encourage families to use rules and develop routines in the home (e.g. safe place for medicines and cleaning products, positioning of hot drinks, kettles and saucepans, awareness when cooking)

For further information please visit

[www.childsafetyweek.org.uk](http://www.childsafetyweek.org.uk) to find out more or download your action pack here <http://www.childsafetyweek.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/CSW-2017-Action-Pack.pdf>

You can also order resources to support the campaign at the Health Promotion Resource and Information Service [www.bristol.resourcesorg.co.uk](http://www.bristol.resourcesorg.co.uk)



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