

# The Children's Asthma Nursing Team

**This leaflet explains more about the children's asthma nursing team. If you have any further questions, please speak to a member of the team.**

## **What is the children's asthma nursing team?**

The children's asthma nursing team, or paediatric asthma nurse specialist service, is a dedicated team giving education and support to the families of children aged 1-18 years with asthma or wheezing.

We aim to work closely with children and their parents / carer, schools, GPs and hospital doctors to raise awareness and understanding of asthma and wheezing.

We want to help lessen the effects of your child's asthma and reduce the risk of emergencies. We work with primary care practices to improve communication around asthma and the consistency of advice.

We can help you with:

- Understanding about asthma and triggers
- How to manage an acute attack
- The correct use of medication and inhalers
- A Personal Asthma Action Plan (PAAP)
- Stopping smoking advice if this is needed.

## **Who can attend / receive the service?**

We aim to see all children who attend the hospital asthma clinics or who are admitted with an acute attack of asthma or wheeze. We try to make sure all children attending the hospital get appropriate follow up either in the community or in the hospital after discharge.

Your child can be referred to the asthma team by your GP, school nurse or hospital Consultant or from the inpatient ward or emergency department (ED or PAU).

## **What do I need to bring with me?**

It is helpful for the asthma team if you can always bring all asthma medications, spacer devices and your Personal Asthma Action Plan (PAAP) when you attend the hospital.

## Useful sources of information

The asthma nursing team has a Twitter page: @SGHAsthma

You may also find the following website useful: [www.asthma.org.uk](http://www.asthma.org.uk)

## Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's wheeze or asthma please contact us on 020 8725 3043. Our working hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm and weekends / bank holiday 9am to 1pm. **Please be aware that at times the office is not attended and you will access our answerphone. Please leave a message with your child's name, date of birth or hospital number and a contact telephone number and we will call you back.**

Out of hours, email: [stgh-tr.childrensasthma@nhs.net](mailto:stgh-tr.childrensasthma@nhs.net) or [paediatricasthma@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:paediatricasthma@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

**For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit [www.stgeorges.nhs.uk](http://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk)**

## Additional services

### Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you on-the-spot advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or the care you have received. You can visit the PALS office between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday in the main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough wings (near the lift foyer).

**Tel:** 020 8725 2453 **Email:** [pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

### NHS Choices

NHS Choices provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make decisions about your health. **Web:** [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

### NHS 111

You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency.

NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones. **Tel:** 111

### AccessAble

You can download accessibility guides for all of our services by searching 'St George's Hospital' on the AccessAble website ([www.accessable.co.uk](http://www.accessable.co.uk)).

The guides are designed to ensure everyone – including those with accessibility needs – can access our hospital and community sites with confidence.

