

## Child Death notifications

When a child dies in England, there is a statutory requirement for all schools to notify the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP), as stipulated in Children Act 2004 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

This process should occur as a matter of urgency as soon as the death is known about, and the 'Form A' and continuing review process has now gone online for Waltham Forest; below is the key information you need to know and ensure is embedded in school protocols.

If you hear about a child death (on your roll or not), during term-time or holidays, please click on the link below and complete the **Form A** as an 'Expected death' or an 'Unexpected death', with as much information that you have available and [submit directly online](#):

A child is anyone aged under 18 years.

Waltham Forest has its own **leaflet "When a child dies"** to explain the CDOP process to the family (attached). It has a section for the parent to have a voice at the review Panel. This is to be explained to the parent by the lead person known to the family.

Whether you're a teacher, paramedic, doctor, police officer, GP, health visitor, midwife or social worker, involvement with child or infant death can be difficult, and can cause you to question your professional capacity and extent to which you should get involved with the bereaved family.

If you would like further help and advice, please call The Lullaby Trust [bereavement support line](#) on 0808 802 6868 or our information line on 0808 802 6869. Both are open to professionals as well as parents.

### [Useful Links](#)

- [Information for GPs](#)
- [Lullaby Trust](#)
- [Child Bereavement UK](#)

If you need further information, please contact [cdop@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:cdop@walthamforest.gov.uk) / 020 8496 3691.

See the new [Child Death Review statutory guidance from October 2018 >](#)

**Remit:** [Schools](#)

**Support Services:** [Safeguarding](#)

**Last updated:** Friday, 7 December, 2018

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