

Greater Manchester Baby Banks Network – *Start Well: Safer Sleep Bundles*

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10 GM baby banks have been working together to share insight and build connectivity as a network. Greater Manchester Combined Authority and NHS GM have funded the network to provide a limited number of *Start Well: Safer Sleep Bundles* to enhance the existing service provided by baby banks.

What is a *Safer Sleep Bundle*?

The Bundle includes:

- Moses Basket, mattress, bedding, and stand.
- Room Thermometer.
- Oral Health pack containing a toothbrush & toothpaste.
- A BookStart baby book.
- Toiletries e.g. nappies, wipes, and hygiene items for parents.
- Leaflets with information on safe sleep; GP registration; 10 Top Tips for Talking to Babies; and 10 Top Tips for Thriving Babies.



Who are *Safer Sleep Bundles* for?

Bundles are available for families who are unable to secure resources themselves due to significant hardship (i.e. poverty, family crisis, homelessness etc.). Funding is limited so please consider if other options are available before referring.

For families with a pending asylum claim living in Home Office accommodation (hotels or dispersal), safe sleeping equipment should be provided by Serco or the accommodation provider. However, additional resources can be provided to ensure that all babies receive equitable support within GM. Your baby bank will be able to advise you on this offer and provide support.

Who can make a referral?

Health and Social Care agencies, charities and professionals supporting families can refer for a *Safer Sleep Bundle*. Please refer families before 35 weeks gestation where possible. It takes two weeks on average for baby banks to make up the packs for families which include donated goods, and the baby banks are reliant on volunteers to provide this offer.

Part of Greater Manchester
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How to make a referral:

To find your local baby bank and their individual referral process, please visit:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people/greater-manchester-school-readiness/families/gm-baby-banks-network/>

Reducing risk and tackling inequalities:

Babies born into poverty and experiencing multiple intersectional risk are more likely to experience morbidity and mortality. The *Safer Sleep* offer provides a safe place to sleep, information to promote safety and encourage families to sing, talk and read to their babies during and after pregnancy to promote a nurturing relationship and support their baby's development.

When delivering the pack you may wish to add information about the local family hub offer, and registration for Healthy Start Vitamins and Vouchers.

Please use these additional resources to support your conversations with families to promote safety and increase parents' knowledge:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people/greater-manchester-school-readiness/families/greater-manchester-gm-10-top-tips/>

Monitoring:

Take-up of the *Safer Sleep Bundles* will enable increased understanding of the needs of families using baby banks across Greater Manchester.



Circular Economy

Baby banks rely on donations for the majority of their stock. Please consider how you might donate aspects of the bundle (such as Moses basket, bedding and stand) back to the baby bank once your referred family has finished using them.

Thank You: This offer has been made possible thanks to the investment from NHS GM Population Health and the GMCA School Readiness Programme; the commitment of the GM Baby Bank Network; and donations from NHS SCW Child Health Information Service, Book-Start, The Brick, and Claire De Lune.