

# AT A GLANCE What is advance care planning?



**Advance care planning (ACP) is designed to communicate the priorities and goals of care for a baby, child or young person who has a chronic, life-threatening or life-limiting condition.**

Children and young people's advance care planning holds similar principles but is uniquely different to adults.



### **Who contributes to ACP**

It involves children and young people (where they are able to contribute), their parents and carers and teams of professionals. It can be used across all settings.



### **It is a collaborative process rather than a single event**

It involves a series of honest conversations and a written document that sets out agreed plans to manage symptoms throughout the child's care, including at the end of life. It aims to empower children and families to share their values, hopes, and goals.



### **Although not legally binding, it provides recommendations that care teams should consider when deciding what clinical interventions are in the child's best interests.**

It includes decisions to support emergency care and treatment and resuscitation decisions, however it is important to note that the presence of an ACP does not equate to a Do Not Attempt Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) decision and covers a wide breadth and scope of choices about future planning and end of life care.



Child and  
Young Person's  
Advance Care Plan

### **It's about being prepared - a parent's perspective**



*It is a document that allows you to plan and think ahead to what your child might need over their lifetime and at the end of their life. It allows you to put down details about what you would like and not like to happen to them taking their needs and interests into account. It means when you are in the moment trying to make a difficult decision you've already had some preparation for that.*

### **A passport to the right care at the right time in the right setting - a doctor's perspective**



*It is important to think of an advance care plan as a passport to the right care at the right time. Ideally in a setting that suits the needs of the child and their family... really important not to see it as anything relating only to resuscitation.*