Compliance with National Standards for Safeguarding Children

As a provider of NHS Hospital and community services, there are a number of standards and statements the Trust is required to make and adhere to:

Safeguarding Children

Aintree University Hospital NHS Trust believes that every unborn baby, child and young person has the right to grow up free from abuse and neglect.

In July 2009 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published a report on their review of arrangements in the NHS for safeguarding children. In line with this Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust continues to monitor its own processes, procedures and policies in regards to safeguarding children and has worked with its partners to respond to initiatives and reviews at both national and local levels.

In particular, the Board is assured that:

- The needs of the child will be paramount and whenever possible practitioners work in partnership with families
- Practitioners will be enabled to work alongside and in partnership with local agencies to safeguard children and young people

Compliance and Standards

Disclosure and Barring:
Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation trust meets the statutory requirements with regard to the carrying out of Disclosure and Barring Service checks.

Policy and Procedure
Child protection policies and systems are up to date and robust, including a process for following up children who do not attend for outpatient appointments and a system for flagging children for whom there are safeguarding concerns.

The Local Safeguarding Children Board Procedures (LSCB) can be accessed through the links in the safeguarding children policy and the links on the intranet.

Training
All eligible staff has undertaken and is up to date with safeguarding training at Level 1. This training is part of the staff induction programme. In addition practitioners that has regular contact with children and young people is expected to undertake further safeguarding training in line with their professional role. The safeguarding children team are working towards increasing the numbers of staff who access and maintain safeguarding training requirements.

Lead /Named Professionals
The Named Doctor and Named Nurse responsible for safeguarding children are clear about their roles and have sufficient time and support to undertake them.

The Director of Nursing and Patient Safety is the Board level Director for safeguarding children. The Safeguarding Group is chaired by the Deputy Director of Nursing and Patient Safety and the group reviews safeguarding children processes across the organization, to be assured that the systems and processes are working. Entity reports from this group is fed through to the Safety and Risk Committee and up to the Assurance Board.

The Named Nurse attends the Local Safeguarding Children’s Boards (LSCB’s). The Board is informed and assured of these systems and processes to safeguard children and an annual report is submitted.

On the basis of this work, Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust confirms that the Board has considered its own position in regards to safeguarding children and has the necessary assurance that it is meeting its statutory requirements and is following good practice.