

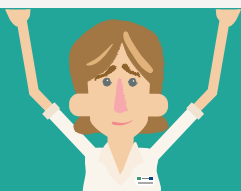
# Supporting Families around the Resuscitation of a Baby or Child

## Supporting Families

- Identify a member of staff dedicated to supporting and communicating with the child's parents
- Know the child's and parents' names
- Explain that their child is being resuscitated, and offer the opportunity for parents to be with them
- Ensure parents are kept updated on their child's condition

## Family witnessed resuscitation

- This can offer comfort to both the child and their parents
- If possible, encourage parents to sit close enough to touch and talk to their child
- Offer explanations about what the team are doing
- Be honest with families rather than overly optimistic



## If resuscitation is not successful

- Talk to parents about the intention to stop resuscitation while CPR is ongoing
- Support parents to maintain touch and talk to their child while CPR stops
- After a death, support parents to spend time with their child
- If the Police and Procurator Fiscal need to be involved, certain restrictions on what happens after a death may be necessary

## Staff Wellbeing

- The resuscitation and death of a child is stressful for all staff
- Make time for a team debrief, ensuring that no-one focuses on feelings of blame
- Look after yourself and your team



Please visit [www.sad.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.sad.scot.nhs.uk) to watch a short animated film on this topic and for other educational resources on death, dying and bereavement for health and social care professionals

