

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7592

**Please reply to:**  
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### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to infant skincare advice.

*You asked:*

- 1. What antenatal advice does the trust routinely give to mothers about infant skincare including the bathing of babies?*
- 2. What postpartum advice does the trust routinely give to mothers about infant skincare including the bathing of babies?*

Trust response:

1. Baby skincare and bathing used to be covered by the maternity support workers (MSWs) at the Early Day's classes. These ceased at the onset of the pandemic and unless the family has specific questions we do not routinely give information antenatally.

2. On the discharge information e-mail, that we send to all women who are discharged from Tunbridge Wells Hospital, we have a link to the Trust postnatal care information/leaflets. On one page we have a link named 'umbilical cord care' and 'washing and bathing', which is a link to the NHS website.

Community midwives advise parents to wait until the umbilical cord is no longer attached before bathing and to clean baby without products. (daily "top and tail").

Information re baby care is usually given at the first postnatal visit and then in response to queries or if the need arises.