Who Does What?

**The Midwife:**
This is the person who will provide most of the care for mum and baby during pregnancy, labour and after the baby is born.

Each mum-to-be has a named midwife. Mum will be asked to visit her midwife regularly during the pregnancy to check that both she and the baby are happy and healthy.

You are welcome to go along to any of these checks - you will have the chance to listen to your baby’s heartbeat and to ask any questions that you may have.

Midwives also provide parent education classes to tell you what to expect during labour and after the birth. Dads are encouraged to go along to these classes so that you will know what is happening during labour. You will be encouraged to ask questions and find out how you can support your partner during labour and after the baby comes home.

The midwife will visit you at home once the baby has been born to check on the progress of mum and baby. Dads are encouraged to ask any questions about baby care, or if you have any worries about your partner please talk to the midwife.

**The GP:**
Your family doctor may do some of the antenatal checks on mum and baby. He/she will visit at least once after the baby has been born. The GP will do the first development check on your baby when he/she is 6-8 weeks old. Dads are welcome to attend any of these checks.
The Consultant:
You and your partner may not see a consultant at all! If there are any problems during the pregnancy then you will be asked to see the consultant for advice. Some consultants like to meet all pregnant women at least once and others are happy for the midwife to provide all of the antenatal care if everything is OK. Dads are welcome to go along to any clinic or scan appointments.

The Health Visitor:
Each new baby has a named health visitor. She may come to visit before the baby is born to introduce herself to your family and explain her role. Once mum and baby have been discharged from the care of the midwife the health visitor will be the person to turn to for advice and information. The health visitor will be able to help with any concerns that you have about your baby.

Health visitors also provide advice and information about health checks and immunisations. She will be able to tell you about local baby clinics, where you can take your baby to be weighed and ask any questions that you have about health or development.

Dads are welcome to go to any of the clinics or health checks and to ask any questions. You can also contact your health visitor if you have any worries or concerns.
We hope that this leaflet has helped to explain who some of the people you will meet during pregnancy and after the birth of your baby are - and what they do.

Each mum-to-be has a named midwife to care for her. You can contact her at any time. If your named midwife is not available there will be another midwife who can give advice or information at any time.

The health visitor will also give you a contact number when you meet her.

You can be as involved as you are able to be!