

Significant Event Audit at Rainbows Children's Hospice - a new way to review incidents

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What is Significant Event Audit (SEA)?

A process in which individual episodes (when there has been a significant occurrence either beneficial or deleterious) are analysed in a systematic way to ascertain what can be learnt about the overall quality of care, and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements (Professor Mike Pringle, 1997)



Types of incidents Rainbows review

- Near miss incidents
- Medication incidents
- Deprivation of Liberty issues
- Tissue viability issues
- Managing challenging situations
- Celebrating best care in exceptional circumstances

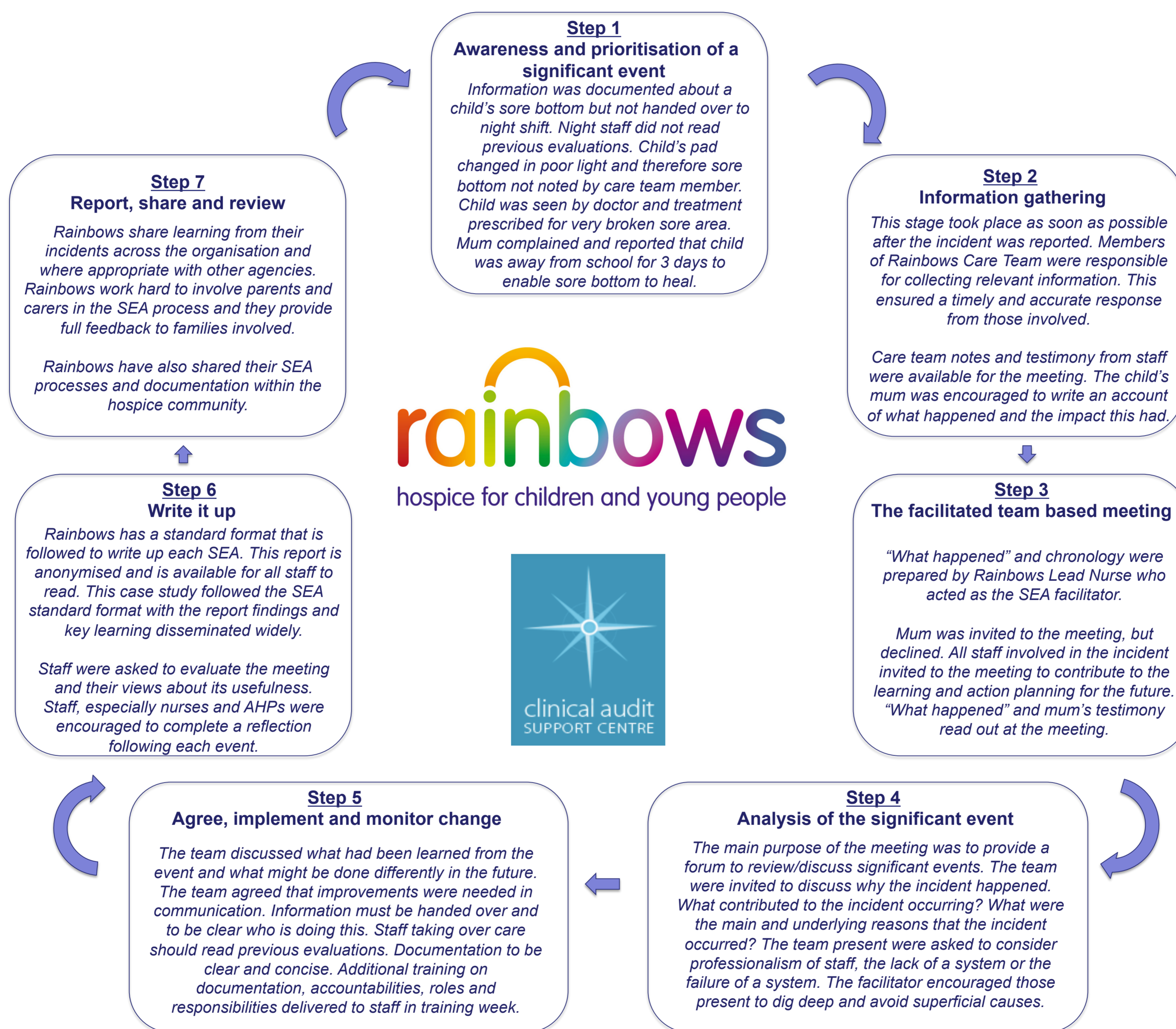


What are the benefits of SEA?

Rainbows constantly evaluate the SEA process in the organisation, a selection of the feedback is provided:
 "We all got the opportunity to have a group meeting to be able to put all points across" (Staff)
 "Well organised and respectful meeting" (External provider)
 "To hear both sides of the argument and the SEA process is a good way to review incidents" (Parent)



Significant Event Audit at Rainbows Children's Hospice – a case study



What others say about Rainbows Significant Event Audit Process

"...Following the review of the death of [child's name] panel members are asked to highlight areas of good practice/service provision. The information presented to panel outlined that Rainbows had provided significant support for family members under very challenging circumstances. The panel members wish to acknowledge the involvement of staff in these challenging circumstances and asked that this be formally noted" (Child Death Overview Panel: SEA was used following the family stay)

"...All staff involved were invited to attend meetings along with parents/young people and used to examine the situation to see what could be learned for future reference. (Care Quality Commission, Rainbows received an overall Outstanding rating and Good for the Safety domain)

Rainbows were trained in Significant Event Audit Methodology by the Clinical Audit Support Centre Limited. To find out more please visit www.clinicalauditsupport.com