



	1 to 6 weeks	6 weeks to 6 months	6 months to 1 year	1 - 3 years	3 - 5 years
Choking 	Babies can choke if they're propped up to feed – always hold them when feeding		Cut food into small pieces and keep small objects like coins and button batteries out of reach. These batteries can also cause life-threatening chemical burns to the intestine		Sit with child and avoid food that is hard to swallow
Suffocation and strangulation 	Babies can suffocate on duvets and pillows. Keep a clear cot with no loose bedding, pillows, cot bumpers or toys. Keep nappy sacks out of reach		Tie up blind cords or install cordless blinds to prevent strangulation, especially in children's bedrooms		Dispose of plastic bags safely. Take care with rotary washing lines, chains and cords
Falls 	Take extra care when carrying a baby on the stairs	A baby could roll or wriggle off a raised surface – change nappies on the floor	Use safety gates on stairs (up to 24 months) Always strap a child into their high chair Use window locks/catches	Teach safe use of stairs. Safety gates are no longer suitable. Use window locks and take care with balconies	
Poisoning 	Fit carbon monoxide alarms wherever there is a flame-burning appliance or open fire. Have appliances serviced annually				
Burns and scalds 	Hot drinks can scald in seconds even when they seem cool – put yours down, out of reach, before picking up a baby Put cold water in the bath first		Keep hot drinks, kettles and pans away from curious hands Put hair straighteners in a safe place to cool Put cold water into the bath first Fit a TMV to the bath hot tap to prevent rapid and severe scalds		
Drowning 	Never leave your baby alone in the bath		Never leave a baby alone in the bath Supervise children near garden ponds and paddling pools		Supervise children playing in or near water
House fires 	Fit smoke alarms and test them regularly, Plan and practise a fire escape route with every family member and carer Keep matches and lighters out of reach Make sure candles and cigarettes are extinguished at night				
Road accidents 	Use a correctly fitted rear-facing seat on every journey. Deactivate the air bag if the seat is ever used in the front		Use a correctly fitted seat that's right for your child's weight, age and height Use a rear-facing seat for as long as possible, based on the manufacturer's recommended height/weight		Use a correctly fitted child car seat for every journey progressing to a high-backed booster seat
Never allow a child under five out alone. Encourage children to hold your hand when near or crossing roads					