



MID & SOUTH ESSEX  
Maternity  
Voices

Working in partnership to improve maternity services



Mid and  
South Essex  
NHS Foundation Trust

If you are pregnant and you identify as Black, Asian or other Minoritised Ethnicity we want you to know...

We are here to support you

### Do you have concerns about your pregnancy on account of your ethnicity?

Research produced during the COVID-19 outbreak has shown that pregnant women from Black, Asian and minoritised backgrounds (which we often refer to in the NHS as BAME backgrounds) have an increased chance of having severe symptoms of COVID-19 that require hospitalisation (4 times the chance compared to white counterparts).

We want to support you with any anxieties you may have about your care or about coming to or staying in hospital. We want to reassure you we are here to help and support you.

- If you are in established labour, a birth partner who is free of COVID-19 symptoms can be with you to support you.
- We have translation services available if you need them. Please ask your midwife to arrange this for you.
- Limited visiting is now permitted on our maternity wards but our midwives and support staff are always there to help you. You are not alone.

If you have any concerns that your ethnicity might be affecting the type of care you are receiving please call the Patient Advice Liaison Service:

**Southend:**

**01702 385333**

**Basildon:**

**01268 394440**

**Broomfield:**

**01245 514130**

Head of People's Experience  
and Engagement,  
Maternity & Neonatal Services:  
[lesley.overy@btuh.nhs.uk](mailto:lesley.overy@btuh.nhs.uk)

Mid & South Essex Maternity  
Voices Partnership  
[msexsexmvp@gmail.com](mailto:msexsexmvp@gmail.com)

"We are  
here for you"

The Maternity Team  
at Mid and South Essex  
NHS Foundation Trust

If you have COVID-19 symptoms or other pregnancy related concern please call the ward number on your hand held notes.