



Committed to promoting the development of children's nursing through evidence based information about practice and education

5th- 11th May 2025

Dying Matters Awareness Week - The Culture of Dying Matters

The 5th to 11th May 2025 marks Dying Matters Awareness Week where organisers, Hospice UK, encourage people all around the UK to get talking about death and dying in whatever way works for them.

The topic of death and dying is often viewed as a Taboo topic, with the death of children rarely spoken about outside of the healthcare environment. Together for Short Lives estimate there are currently 99,000 children and young people with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition across the UK, a figure that has risen significantly in recent years.

The Association of British Paediatric Nurses (ABPN) believe that every child and young person has a right to have their specific needs met. Children who are dying often have very specific needs which differ from those of adults and the ABPN also believe that children and young people should receive care from nurses that have the child specific knowledge, skills and competencies to meet these unique needs.

Whilst the death of a child will affect people differently, feelings about dying and the way we experience grief are things that often bring us together, no matter our faith, religion or culture.

The theme of this years Dying Matters Week is *The Culture of Dying Matters*, focussing on how different communities and cultures across the UK talk about death and dying as well as what brings people together.

To mark Dying Matters Awareness Week 2025, Nicola Fielding, children's nurse and nursing lecturer at the University of Plymouth, is representing the ABPN in a series of podcasts where she will be joined by three amazing guests who have kindly agreed to share their views on the culture of death and dying.

Podcast guest Information

Lisa Pullen - operational, clinical and professional lead for the community children's nursing pathway in Devon

Rachel Cooke – Registered Children's Nurse and Bereavement Service Manager, Great Ormand Street Children's Hospital, London

Ravi Nathwani – Vice Chair and Hindu Trustee of the Devon faith and Belief Forum