

This card is designed to help you know and spot the signs and symptoms of brain tumours in children and young people.

Fortunately brain tumours in children and young people are rare, but they happen.

- A quarter of childhood cancers occur in the brain
- Early detection of brain tumours can improve the outcome
- If you are worried you / your child has a brain tumour SAY this to your doctor
- The website [www.headsmart.org.uk](http://www.headsmart.org.uk) can provide further information, support and reassurance

If you are worried make an appointment with your doctor. Please remember any young person needing urgent medical help should be taken to the nearest emergency department or dial 999.



Any child with symptoms that are unusual for him or her, or are persistent or unexplained, should be seen by a GP. Please remember that any child needing urgent medical help should be taken to the nearest emergency department.

**In an emergency dial 999.**

The HeadSmart Campaign is run by a partnership between the Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre (CBTRC) at the University of Nottingham, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) and Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust (SDBTT), and has been funded by The Health Foundation and SDBTT.

If you would like to talk to someone about brain tumours, or have been affected by the brain tumour symptoms campaign, please contact the support line at SDBTT on

**0845 130 9733 or  
e:mail: [info@headsmart.org.uk](mailto:info@headsmart.org.uk)**

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**HEADSMART**  
be brain tumour aware

**This card will give you  
all the information  
you need to be brain  
tumour aware.**

**[www.headsmart.org.uk](http://www.headsmart.org.uk)**



Under 5

## Preschool

**Brain tumours happen...**

**Symptoms include:**

- ⚡ Persistent / recurrent vomiting
- ⚡ Balance / co-ordination / walking problems
- ⚡ Abnormal eye movements
- ⚡ Behaviour change, particularly lethargy
- ⚡ Fits or seizures (not with a fever)
- ⚡ Abnormal head position such as wry neck, head tilt or stiff neck

**If your child has one of these, see your doctor  
If two or more, ask for an "urgent referral"**



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## Children

**Brain tumours happen...**

**Symptoms include:**

- ⚡ Persistent / recurrent headache
- ⚡ Persistent / recurrent vomiting
- ⚡ Balance / co-ordination / walking problems
- ⚡ Abnormal eye movements
- ⚡ Blurred or double vision
- ⚡ Behaviour change
- ⚡ Fits or seizures
- ⚡ Abnormal head position such as wry neck, head tilt or stiff neck

**If your child has one of these, see your doctor  
If two or more, ask for an "urgent referral"**



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## Young People

**Brain tumours happen...**

**Symptoms include:**

- ⚡ Persistent / recurrent headache
- ⚡ Persistent / recurrent vomiting
- ⚡ Balance / co-ordination / walking problems
- ⚡ Abnormal eye movements
- ⚡ Blurred or double vision
- ⚡ Behaviour change
- ⚡ Fits or seizures
- ⚡ Delayed or arrested puberty, slow growth

**If your child has one of these, see your doctor  
If two or more, ask for an "urgent referral"  
Especially if growth or puberty is slow**