### Instructions to authors

The *British Journal of Child Health* (CHHE) welcomes unsolicited articles on public health, safeguarding, mental health and wellbeing, and special and complex needs. The journal **publishes original research, literature reviews and clinical case studies**. All articles submitted to BJSN are subject to double-blind peer review. Following acceptance for publication, MA Healthcare will hold exclusive rights to articles.

**Articles should be between 1500 and 3000 words**, although this can be exceeded when submitting original research (which can go up to 5500 words) or in special cases when agreed in advance with the editor.

If you have any queries relating to potential articles, please contact the editor on 020 7501 6771 or [chhe@markallengroup.com](mailto:chhe@markallengroup.com)

**SUBMISSIONS**

1. [Submit your article online](http://www.editorialmanager.com/chhe/)

2. Articles should be submitted as Microsoft Word files or equivalent. If you are not using Microsoft Word, please save the document as an ASCII or text file.

3. Articles should be **double-spaced** and **pages should be numbered. All tables and figures should be included and numbered**.

3. For purposes of confidentiality, **author identification should only appear on the title page**.

4. You will **receive proofs for correction before publication**.

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**ARTICLES**

Please ensure you selected the correct article type, e.g. original research, clinical review etc.

**Documents to upload**

**Title page:** The title page, which must be submitted as a separate file from the main manuscript, should include the following information: title, author details, abstract, acknowledgment, conflict of interest statement. **This should be a separate file – this will be uploaded first on our submission site and this will automatically populate these fields for your submission, making it a more straightforward process.**

**Anonymous manuscript:** This document must contain the full text of the article including the abstract, keywords, key points and references (please see below). **It must not contain any information that could identify the author(s).**

**Tables and figures** included in the article must be uploaded as separate files even if they are already included in the original manuscript document.

**Additional data/videos/audio** may also be uploaded separately, if applicable.

**Abstract**

An abstract of between **100 and 150 words** must be submitted giving a brief outline of the content of the article, including major findings. This is a summary of the entire article, not an introduction. For research articles, the abstract should be structured in the following sections: Background, Aims, Methods, Findings, Conclusions.

**Headings**

Relevant **subheadings should be used** to structure the article.

**Conclusions**

Your conclusions should be **succinct and logically ordered**. Identify gaps in present knowledge and suggest future initiatives.

**Keywords**

Please provide 5–6 searchable terms.

**Key points**

You must supply 4–6 full sentences that adequately summarise the major themes.

**Reflective questions**

Please supply 3–5 questions based on your article that readers can use for reflective notes or discussion, which may be used to count towards their NMC revalidation.

**Tables and figures**

Figures (illustrations, graphs, bar charts and photographs) and tables (information listed in a boxed off row-and-column format) are **popular with readers and are encouraged**:

1. Please clearly indicate the number of the figure or table in the text of the article and also on the figure/table.

2. In the case of illustrative figures, our artists can transform rough drawings you provide into finished artwork. Graphs, bar charts etc. must have all percentages/numbers clearly marked on them, as our artists also redraw these.

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4. You must have written consent to publish photographs of patients and/or their conditions. Please indicate that such consent has been obtained in your submission.

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**References**

The [CSE system](http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/DocCSE_NameYear.html) must be used.

Please ensure that **the** **reference list is under the subheading ‘References’** and **any formatting from reference managing systems (e.g. EndNote or Reference Manager) has been removed**.

**Abbreviations and units**

Abbreviations are acceptable as long as they are **defined at first mention**. **SI units should be used,** except for measurement of blood pressure (mmHg) and haemoglobin (g/dl).

**COMPLETING YOUR SUBMISSION**

Please note that your submission is not complete until you have viewed and approved the PDF version of your article and received an email confirmation of completed submission.

**OTHER POINTS TO NOTE**

**Conflict of interest**

It is the journal’s editorial policy to **ask authors to declare any conflict of interest**, including any possible interest, financial or otherwise, that may embarrass the author or the journal if revealed at a later date. If you believe that applies to you, please provide a statement when prompted during the submission process.

**Ethical approval**

If your article involves the use of human subjects, you need to ensure that the article **contains a statement that all procedures were performed in compliance with relevant laws and institutional guidelines and that the appropriate institutional committee(s) has/ve approved them**.

**Informed consent**

Where there is an unavoidable risk of breach of privacy (e.g. in a clinical photograph or in case details) the patient's written consent, or that of the next of kin, to publication must be obtained. You can request a consent form template for signature from the editor. We will ask you to include the signed consent form with your submission.