**Equipment – safe use and maintenance**

**Checklist for Hoists -** includes mobile, gantry, ceiling track, bed head, standing and bath

* Does the hoist have a ‘CE’ mark on them?
* What is the ‘safe working load’ (SWL)?
* Is the hoist within LOLER? Check when it was last serviced (sticker and/or NRS equipment records)
* Are there any obvious signs of damage? Are there any fluid leaks? Is the equipment clean?
* Does the emergency stop function work? Can this be reset?
* Battery – is this charging and fitted securely?
* Castors – are they secure, in good condition, and free moving?
* Brakes – do they work properly?
* Base adjuster – do the legs work properly, do they fully extend and close?
* Mast - are joints, nuts, and bolts secure?
* Controls – are these working? Are there any signs of damage to the control panel/remote or flex/lead?
* Raising and lowering mechanism – Does this fully raise and lower?
* Check the emergency lowering mechanism
* Spreader bar – is this in good working order and good condition?
* Push handles – are these secure and in good condition?
* Gantry and CTH – is the lifting tape intact and not frayed?
* Are the manufacturer’s Instructions available?

**Checklist for slings**

* Does the sling have a ‘CE’ mark on it?
* What is the ‘safe working load’ (SWL)?
* Is the sling within LOLER? Check when it was last serviced (NRS equipment records). Any defect to the sling would result in the sling failing the LOLER inspection.
* Label – is this clearly readable?
* Seams – is the stitching intact? Are there any tears or loose thread?
* Edge binding – is the stitching intact? Are there any tears or loose thread?
* Loops – checking these are in good condition. Are they attached securely to the sling material? Is there any fraying?
* Velcro (if applicable) – check this is in good condition and not worn. Is the Velcro sticking?
* Buckle (if applicable) – check for signs of damage
* Fabric – check there are no rips, tears, holes, or other damage
* Is the sling clean?
* Check the sling is compatible to use with the hoist.

***References/resources:***

*HSE – Getting to Grips with Hoisting, 2011* [*https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsis3.pdf*](https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsis3.pdf)

*Better Outcomes in Adult Care Training Consultancy, (2021), Equipment safety check record.*