

3 January 2019

Couple welcomes baby in early hours of the new year

A baby girl born at Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital in the early hours of 2019 is among the first babies born in NSW this year.

The bundle of joy, named Inaaya Asad, arrived at 12.13am and weighed 2.9 kilograms.

Little Anaaya Asad was one of five babies born at Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital on January 1.

The baby's parents, Nabila Khan and Asad Akhlaque, were one of the first to receive a NSW Government Baby Bundle.

The Baby Bundle, valued at \$300, includes essential items for new parents such as a sleeping bag, play and change mats, thermometers and a first aid kit.

Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital General Manager Peter Rophail said the bundle would provide some relief to new parents.

"We know there are a lot of expenses associated with having a child and, long after leaving our hospital, parents will have important information in this practical baby bundle so they know where to go for extra support," Mr Rophail said.

Parents will receive the Baby Bundle before being discharged from hospital, or after registering their child with NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages in instances where the birth does not occur in a hospital.

Just under 96,000 babies were born in NSW last year. It is anticipated that around 50,000 Baby Bundles will be given out in the first six months of the year across 87 public and private maternity hospitals in NSW.

The Baby Bundle is part of the NSW Government's \$157 million parenting package including more midwives and family health nurses, investment in testing and treatments for children's diseases, and practical and emotional support to parents.

In 2018-19, \$1.1 million of the parenting package is funding seven additional Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Services clinicians to support women with severe or complex mental health problems and their families during the perinatal period.

The contents of the Baby Bundle meet Australian safety standard and include a sleeping bag, play and change mats, muslin wrap, bath and room thermometers, baby toothbrush, breast pads, first aid kit, board books, face cloth, baby wipes, hand sanitiser, barrier cream and resources on child development and parental wellbeing.