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### Child requires specialist treatment after dog bite

A four-year-old girl required specialist hospital treatment after she was bitten on the cheek by a dog.

The youngster was taken to the Queen Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead, which specialises in reconstructive surgery, following the Friday afternoon incident at Calverley Grounds, Tunbridge Wells.

Police are now attempting to track down the owner of the dog, which was not on a lead.

He is described as being thin, white and about 5ft 8in, wearing khaki trousers, a sand-coloured bomber jacket, desert boots and a pork pie hat.

The man's dog was small and scruffy.

Det Sgt Matt Burdekin said: "What happened was clearly very distressing for both the little girl and her parents.

"If you are a dog-owner it would be better to keep your dog on a lead in a public place, and if there are any doubts about the animal's temperament then use a muzzle when it is around people and other animals."

Anyone with information should call the police on 01732 379217 and quote reference 6717.

Alternatively call Kent CrimeStoppers, in confidence, on 0800 555111.

POSTED: 12/05/2009 17:06:53

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