

# Welcome to the Children's Ward

Information for  
parents and carers



The Children's Ward has 14 beds and cares for children up to the age of 16.

Patients over 16 who are still under the care of a paediatrician may be admitted to the Children's Ward.

Children may be admitted from the Emergency Department or through their GP.

They may also be admitted for planned operations, such as orthopaedic, ear, nose and throat, dental or plastic surgery.

## **What to expect on the Children's Ward**

When you arrive your child will be seen by a member of our nursing team.

The nurse will take some details and record your child's 'observations': these include their weight, temperature, heart rate and breathing. Your child will also be seen by a doctor, who will examine your child and take down a full medical history.

The nurse and doctor will explain everything to you, and please do ask questions if there is anything happening that you do not understand.

## **Investigations**

Your child may need other investigations (tests) depending on their condition. The doctors and nurses will explain these to you and make sure you understand what is being done.

## **Infection control**

Your child may be screened for a variety of infections.

Please keep your child's bed space tidy to help make cleaning easier. If your child is nursed in a side room, please check with the nurse whether they should stay in the room at all times.

## Visiting

We have open visiting hours for parents/carers, grandparents and siblings. Parents/carers are responsible for siblings who visit.

Visiting hours for all other family and friends are 11.00am to 8.00pm.

Parents can stay after 8.00pm and there are beds available for one parent to stay overnight with their child.

Please can partners who are not staying overnight leave by 10.00pm.

There is a parents' room where you can prepare your own food and drink.

## Ward round

Children who stay overnight will be seen by a paediatric consultant on the morning ward round. This starts at 9.30am, but unfortunately we cannot say exactly when the consultant will see your child.

## Mealtimes

Breakfast 7.30am to 8.30am

Lunch 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Tea 4.30pm to 5.30pm

Meals are served to all inpatients and breastfeeding mothers.

If your child has any specialist dietary requirements please tell a member of staff. A range of snacks is on offer during the day; we have some jars of baby food and formula milk on the Children's Ward.

**Please respect our 'protected mealtimes', which allow children to eat their meals without interruption.**

## Playroom

There is a playroom for your child on the ward and our play specialist is on hand to give you any help you need. If your child is being nursed in one of our side rooms and is unable to go to the playroom, the play specialist can provide activities for them. There is an outdoor play area by the playroom which is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm (weather permitting).

## Parking

Under certain circumstances, families may be entitled to discounted parking. Please speak to a member of staff on the ward about this.

## Feedback

Positive feedback is always welcome. Please speak to your child's nurse who can advise on the best way to provide this.

You can also leave feedback by scanning the QR code below:



If you have any concerns during your child's stay, please speak to a member of staff whilst on the ward who may be able to help straight away.

You can also contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service on:

Telephone: 01865 221 473

Email: [PALs@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:PALs@ouh.nhs.uk)

## **Further information**

For further information please visit [www.ouh.nhs.uk](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk) or see the booklet 'Information for patients – Horton General Hospital'.



## Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

Author: Horton Children's Ward  
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[www.ouh.nhs.uk/information](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/information)



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