

PATIENT INFORMATION

When Your Child is Coming to Hospital for an Operation

Welcome to the Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust where we have a dedicated team to provide the best care possible for your child.

We realise that bringing your child into hospital can be a stressful time for all the family, therefore we aim to provide a calm and relaxed atmosphere from the moment you arrive onto the Children's Ward.

This leaflet is written to help provide you and your family with useful information about day surgery for your child. Your child will have a Covid PCR test 3 days prior to coming into hospital. The result will need to be negative for the admission to go ahead.

DAY OF ADMISSION

You should be advised when you are contacted regarding your child, whether your child will have their operation in the morning or the afternoon.

Please only 1 parent/carer attend with the child having the procedure.

If your child is on the morning list they should have:-

- **No food after midnight**
- **Clear fluids (water or diluted squash/cordial) until 6am**

If your child is on the afternoon list they should have:-

- **Light breakfast before 7am**
- **Clear fluids (water or diluted squash/cordial) until 10am**

If your child appears unwell or has a high temperature, please contact the Children's Ward on **01695 656912** to discuss if your child is fit for surgery.

When you arrive at the Children's Ward on Level 1 (access controlled by a video entry system for the safety of our children), you will meet the nurse looking after you for the day.

Your child will then be shown to their bed for the day, which has its own overhead television (from 7am until 7pm). This is also used to order suitable meals for your child – a member of staff will help you.

We will need some basic observations from your child as they arrive; these include weight, temperature, blood pressure and oxygen saturation levels.

Children attending for ENT, Orthopaedic or Ophthalmic surgery, will need to wear one of our theatre gowns.

Children attending for dental surgery may wear one layer of loose fitting clothes or pyjamas with no metal zips, clasps or similar. Please note we cannot take responsibility for any spillages onto personal clothing.

Ametop cream will be applied before surgery. This is an anaesthetic cream applied to the backs of the hands to help numb the skin, allowing your child a more comfortable experience for anaesthetic.

Your child's Surgeon and Anaesthetist will visit you on the ward on the day of surgery to sign/confirm consent and answer any questions you may have that day. They will give an approximate time for the surgery, although this may change as they can have three or four patients on the list at

any one time. We will do our best to keep you informed about what is happening.

Our Play Specialists will accompany you and your child to theatre and stay until the anaesthetic is given, helping to explain to your child in an appropriate way, step by step what is happening.

After surgery, when your child is ready to return to the ward, you can go to the recovery area with the nurse and accompany your child back.

On return to the Children's Ward, your child will require further observations. They will be offered a drink and then something light to eat.

Our bright and fun filled playroom and spacious outdoor area has lots of toys and activities to offer for your child whilst they wait for surgery and afterwards. Our Play Specialists will help settle you in and provide fun activities for your child to enjoy, including board games, computer games, role play, books and art and craft.

CONSENT TO TREATMENT

Please be aware that an adult with legal parental responsibility for the child must attend hospital with them in order to provide consent. If not, your child's operation may be cancelled. Please feel free to telephone for advice or clarity – 01695 656912.

WHAT TO BRING INTO HOSPITAL

Your child may like to bring in their favourite toy, book, comforter, duvet, blanket or pillow to help them feel more at ease.

CARING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

We aim to care for the needs of the whole family and offer an open and supportive environment in which you are involved in your child's care throughout. We allow visiting for extended family members from 13:00 hours to 19:00 hours depending on your child's medical condition. Parents are welcome at all times but only facilities available for one parent to sleep overnight.

DISCHARGE AND AFTERCARE

Day case patients are usually able to go home between 3 and 6 hours after returning from surgery, depending on the type of surgery and what medications they have received and provided they have a normal recovery and meet the discharge criteria.

Before leaving hospital, you will be given specific information on aftercare for the procedure your child has undergone.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions that you feel have not been answered in this leaflet, please contact:-

The Children's Ward on 01695 656912

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our ward.

Notes

During your contact with us, it is important that you are happy with your care and treatment. Please speak to a member of staff and/or the ward/department Sister/Charge Nurse if you have questions or concerns.

MATRON

A Matron is also available during the hours of 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. During these periods, ward/department staff can contact Matron to arrange to meet with you. Out of hours, a Senior Nurse can be contacted via the ward/department to deal with any concerns you may have.

INFECTION CONTROL REQUEST

Preventing infections is a crucial part of our patients' care. To ensure that our standards remain high our staff have regular infection prevention and control training and their practice is monitored in the workplace. We ask patients and visitors to assist us in preventing infections by not visiting the hospital when having COVID symptoms, wearing a face covering, cleaning their hands at regular intervals and informing staff of areas within the hospital that appear soiled.

As a patient there may be times that you are unsure whether a staff member has cleaned their hands; if in doubt please ask the staff member and they will be only too happy to put your mind at ease by cleaning their hands so that you can see them.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Only 1 parent / carer with patient under 16 years

ANY CONDITION SPECIFIC DANGER SIGNALS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

CONTACT INFORMATION IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CONDITION

- Your own GP

OTHER USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS/CONTACTS:

NHS 111

Stop Smoking Helpline (Sefton) – 0300 100 1000

Stop Smoking Helpline (West Lancashire) – 0800 328 6297

**Please call 01704 704714 if you need
this leaflet in an alternative format**

Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust

Ormskirk & District General Hospital
Wigan Road, Ormskirk, L39 2AZ
Tel: (01695) 577111

Southport & Formby District General Hospital
Town Lane, Kew, Southport, PR8 6PN
Tel: (01704) 547471

FOR APPOINTMENTS

Telephone (01695) 656680
Email soh-tr.appointments@nhs.net

Please remember to complete the **attached** *Friends and Family Test*.

Alternatively, you can complete the *Friends and Family Test* on-line by going to:
southportandormskirk.nhs.uk/FFT
Thank you

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