

Welcome to Lyndon Ground ward at Sandwell Hospital

Information and advice for parents and carers

Paediatrics

We hope to make your child's stay with us as positive and comfortable as possible.

Our Aim

Our aim is to care for your child how you want us to. We will consider your and your child's individual requirements and respect any social, physical, emotional, spiritual and cultural needs.

We will work together with you to meet the needs of your child during their stay and arrange for any care that they may need when they go home.

The Lyndon Ground ward at Sandwell Hospital includes a Paediatric Assessment Unit and an Adolescent Unit.

The Paediatric Assessment Unit (PAU)

This unit is a short stay ward (less than 24 hours stay) for children under 12. Children can be referred by a health professional.

Each child that comes to this ward for assessment has different needs and so sometimes another child may be seen more quickly than yours.

After the assessment, if the doctors feel that your child needs to stay in hospital for longer than 24 hours, we may move them to Lyndon 1 (first floor) inpatient ward.

The Adolescent Unit

This unit is for young people aged 12-18. The unit has long stay patients as well as young people who require assessment.

If your child is 16, they can choose whether they want to be on a children's ward or an adult ward where they might not be under a paediatric consultant but a doctor from the adult team.

This will not affect their stay or care but their team of doctors may be different.

What do I need to bring from home for my child's stay in hospital?

If your child is in hospital for less than 24 hours then you may not need to bring any toiletries or nightwear.

If they are here for longer then we advise that you bring the following items:

- Any medications they are already taking
- Pyjamas/Nightdress
- Dressing gown
- Slippers

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- Comfortable clothes
- Underwear
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Toiletries
- Hairbrush
- A book or magazine
- A small amount of money for magazines or chocolate etc
- Mobile phone – however you must:
 - Not use the camera or video
 - Not use your phone charger unless it has been safety checked by our electricians.

What will happen when my child arrives on the ward?

When your child arrives on the ward, he/she will be welcomed by a friendly nurse who will show them to their bed. The nurse will ask some questions about their health and also check their:

- temperature
- blood pressure
- height
- weight
- heart rate
- oxygen saturations
- blood sugar (if necessary)
- urine for infection

Where will my child stay on the ward?

If your child is under 12 years old, they will stay on a mixed ward with other boys and girls. We try to put children of similar ages in the same area but this is not always possible. Your child may be put in a separate cubicle but this will depend on why they are in hospital.

If your child is 12 years old or over, they will be nursed in the adolescent unit in separate cubicles. There are single-sex toilets and showers available.

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The staff on the ward

Your child will be looked after by specially trained children's nurses and medical staff. We also have a play team who will organise activities during the day for your child to take part in.

The wards have photo boards of most of the staff who work there and by each bedside there is a patient information folder with detailed information about staff you may see on the ward and other general information for you to read.

What is the daily routine on the ward?

- 8am – 9am: **Breakfast** – We provide toast, cereal, milk and juice for both you and your child.
- 9am – 12noon: **Doctors ward round** - During the morning the doctors will visit your child to examine them and see how they are.
- School** - Teachers will be available to help your child with schoolwork if they are well enough.
- 12noon: **Lunch** - There is a choice of sandwiches, fruit and crisps and yogurt for your child only.
- 5pm – 5.30pm: **Dinner/supper** - This is a hot meal which your child will choose from a menu earlier in the day. Special menus are available for different dietary needs.
- 9pm: **Quiet time** - After 9pm we ask that your child uses a dimmer light and headphones so they don't disturb other patients. Children should try to sleep by 10pm.

What is there to do on the ward?

We provide various things on the ward to keep your child busy. We have:

- **TVs by the bed** - These have standard TV channels, they are free from 7am until 7pm and are then £1 for 2 hours. Payment top-up cards are available from the 2nd floor. The TVs also have 8 games and a hospital radio station on them which are always free.
- **DVD's** - We have a wide selection of DVDs and videos on the ward.
- **Games consoles** - There is a PlayStation, X box and a Wii console
- **Art and craft activities** - available from our Play Team.
- **Seating Area** - for games or dining.

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School

If your child is well enough, during term time we have teachers that will teach in the school room or see your child at their bed if they cannot make it to the school room.

The teachers work from 9.30am – 12pm. It is a legal requirement for your child to attend school, even when they are in hospital.

Visiting

Parents can visit and stay anytime during the day. One parent can stay overnight and sleep in the reclining chair next to the bed.

We have open visiting so other family members or friends can visit anytime from 10am – 7pm.

Only 2 people can visit at a time (including parents). Any visitors under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Giving your feedback

We strongly value feedback from both you and your child.

If you are not happy with the care your child is receiving or received on the ward, or if you have any other concerns, please speak to the nurse looking after your child or the ward manager.

If you feel your child has received exceptional care whilst on the ward, we would welcome your positive comments.

General information

Preventing infection

To help us prevent infections spreading in our hospital, we ask that you wash your hands or use the gel provided when entering or leaving any ward. It is also important that you wash your hands thoroughly before and after caring for your child.

Religious and Spiritual Support

We provide a Chaplaincy service during normal office hours. If you need a Chaplain outside of these times, please call the main hospital switchboard and they can contact the chaplain on duty.

We have Chaplains from Christian, Hindu and Muslim faith traditions to help all patients, visitors and staff.

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Restaurants and Refreshments

The Hallam restaurant is opposite the main reception, next to the Women's Health Unit. It is open from 7.30am – 6.30pm every day and serves a selection of hot food, snacks and cold drinks.

You can also buy snacks and hot and cold drinks from the WRVS shop or Costa Coffee in the main entrance of the hospital.

Useful Contact Numbers

Hospital Switchboard 0121 553 1831

Lyndon Ground Ward 0121 507 3266

Lyndon 1 Ward 0121 507 3800

Further information

For more information about our hospitals and services please see our websites www.swbh.nhs.uk and www.swbhengage.com, follow us on Twitter @SWBHnhs and like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/SWBHnhs.

If you would like to suggest any amendments or improvements to this leaflet please contact the communications department on 0121 507 5495 or email: swb-tr.swbh-gm-patient-information@nhs.net



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