

Welcome to the Ophthalmology Paediatric Day Surgery Unit

Information and advice for parents and carers

Birmingham & Midlands Eye Centre

Introduction to the ward

We are a five bedded children's ward, situated at the end of the Eye Inpatient unit.

We open on Monday and Thursdays for children who need planned day case surgery. We offer support and information that you may require throughout your stay with us.

We ask all parents, carers and visitors to please use the hand gel provided at the entrance of the ward when entering and leaving the ward, this prevents cross infection.

Staff

Two qualified children's nurses will be looking after your child and they will be wearing navy blue uniform. On the day of the operation, the consultant who will be performing the operation and the anaesthetist will meet you and your child.

Our Visiting Policy:

Family members or carers (two adults only) are allowed to accompany their child. We encourage one adult to stay with the child at all times.

Property

We advise our patients not to bring in any valuable items. However, we do have lockers available for patients to use, and any items will be at your own risk.

Admission Procedure

Monday and Thursday are elective theatre days. Prior to surgery, all children will have had a pre-assessment, so any questions you or child may have can be discussed with the nursing staff, we will also give you a copy of our child friendly 'Rees bear has an anaesthetic', which explains our bear's journey from admission to discharge.

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What to expect on the day of surgery

The surgeon, or one of the team, will check the consent, answer any questions you and/ or your child may have, and mark your child's operation site. The nursing staff will check your address and GP is the same and if anything has changed since pre-admission. They will check all the observations required pre-operation such as – weight and baseline observations including: temperature, heart rate, respiration and blood pressure. They will also apply a local anaesthetic cream to the back of your child's hand as to numb the skin in preparation for the cannula. The anaesthetist will discuss the methods of anaesthetising your child, as well as the various pain control methods. If you are not clear about the information, please do ask the anaesthetist and they will be happy to explain to you.

You are welcome to accompany you child to the anaesthetic room and stay until your child has been anaesthetised. (Only one parent / carer allowed in the anaesthetic room at any time.).

After the procedure, you will be shown through to the recovery area by a member of the nursing staff.

Property

We encourage our children to bring in a favourite toy if they want to. Any valuables or money should be kept with parents at all time. Any medication bought in will be locked in a cupboard (except inhalers).

Meals

Meals for Parents

There is a snack bar outside the main ward opposite the lifts (Sheldon Block). Opening times 10:30am – 2:30 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (closed Wednesday). Contact number: 0121 507 6871

There is another snack bar on the ground floor (Sheldon Block) near the entrance. Opening times 8:45 am - 2pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (closed Thursday). Contact number: 0121 507 5054

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Boaters Restaurant is situated in the BMEC Out Patients Department. Opening times 8:30am – 5:00pm Monday to Friday. Contact number: 0121 507 6877

Food for Your Child

We provide drinks and sandwiches, toast, biscuits for your child after their surgery.

You can bring in your own food for your child.

Interpreters

The need for an interpreter will be identified at the Pre – Assessment visit, and will be available on the day of surgery. We also have the use of Language line; this is where a two way telephone is used, to ensure that you as a parent/carer understand what is happening.

Religious Needs

We have a prayer room outside day surgery on the same floor as a children's bay.

City Hospital also has a chapel, which is over in the main hospital block on the first floor, next to the Paediatric Assessment Unit (D19) and opposite to D20. Contact number: 0121 507 4055.

The chapel is available for people of all faiths, for prayer or just to sit quietly.

The chaplaincy can contact other denominations and faiths on your behalf if you would like them to do so.

A Muslim Prayer Room (with washing facilities) is also available over in the main hospital block on the first floor.

Pharmacy

The Birmingham Midland Eye Centre Pharmacy is located near the Eye Casualty department.

The City Hospital Pharmacy is located over in the main hospital block, on the main corridor about half way down.

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Cash Point Machine

A cash point machine is located in the main hospital block on the main corridor near reception.

What to do if you have any concerns:

Any immediate concerns please inform the paediatric nursing staff or ward manager on 0121 507 6885 or 0121 507 6887.

Patients Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS is a friendly, accessible and confidential service for people who would like information, who have any concerns, or would like to comment about any of the services provided by the Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital NHS Trust.

PALS is situated in the Birmingham Treatment Centre. Opening hours are 10am to 3pm, Mondays to Fridays.

PALS telephone number: 0121 507 5836

Email: pals@swbh.nhs.uk

Car Parking

The Trust offers car parking for parents / carers and visitors, as well as spaces for disabled badge holders. If you or your visitor is going to use the car park, there is charge. The tariffs are displayed near the pay stations or pre-paid tokens, may be obtained from main reception at the Birmingham Treatment Centre, four tokens for £10 between the hours of 7:00 am and 16:00 pm Monday to Friday.

Financial Support

Help and advice can be gained from the general office located in the main hospital block on the ground floor next to the Medical Assessment Unit (MAU).

Opening times are: Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 3:45 pm.

Telephone 0121 507 4337 for more information.

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Transferring Patients

If your child requires an overnight stay after surgery they will be transferred to the Paediatric Assessment Unit (D19) over in the main hospital block, on the first floor via a hospital internal ambulance. The ambulance can only take one parent / carer as well as a member of staff.

Smoking

We would like to remind you that Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust is a no smoking hospital.

We have a smoke free policy that does not permit smoking for those wishing to smoke. If you would like to smoke, there are designated areas for smoking. Please ask a member of staff of where you can go.

Keeping In Touch

Paediatric ward at BMEC is only open on Monday and Thursday. You can call the department on 0121 507 6885. If there are any other problems or queries, please contact below:

Contact numbers:

City Hospital Switchboard – 0121 507 3801

Birmingham Treatment Centre Paediatric Surgery
0121 507 6176

BMEC Accident & Emergency Department
0121 507 6780

Orthoptics Department
0121 507 6829

Paediatric Assessment Unit (D19)
0121 507 4019

Orthoptics
0121 507 6829

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Thank you for taking the time in reading the information provided. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask a member of staff

For more information about our hospitals and services please see our websites www.swbh.nhs.uk, 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 5303 or email: swb-tr.swbh-gm-patient-information@nhs.net



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