

Life

K i d z

paediatric ward – general information





We have developed the following general guidelines to ensure a safe, peaceful and healthy environment for your child in our paediatric wards. Please do not hesitate to ask questions or discuss any problems which may arise with the Unit Manager. Please note, the information below are general guidelines only, confirm specific guidelines with your chosen paediatric unit.

visiting

- Open visiting for parents and grandparents only.
- Only 2 visitors per patient.
- Siblings – only siblings over the age of 3 years who are healthy may visit (no runny nose, fever or diarrhoea)
- Remember the attention span of pre-schoolers is short, so plan brief visits if siblings are with you.

childcare

- As we do not have child care services available, we ask that you do not bring children with you unless you have someone to supervise them while you are at your child's bedside.

accommodation

- Only one parent is allowed to stay overnight, so that parents can relieve one another at the bedside.
- A chairbed will be provided.
- Parents are requested not to “block” access to their children, especially at night.
- You are requested not to sleep with your child in bed/ or cot/or in your arms on the lazy boy chair, as this will hamper patient care.
- Parents are also requested not to interfere with patient care.

baby feeds

- Formula feeds are prepared in the central milk kitchen under sterile conditions.
- Inform staff of any special likes or dislikes e.g.: does baby prefer cold milk or warm milk etc.



nappies

- Medical aids do not cover the cost of nappies; therefore you are requested to bring in nappies.
- Plastic bins, lined with red bags, are provided for the disposal of soiled nappies.

infection control

- If your child is placed in isolation, you are requested to adhere to the restrictions placed on you by staff.
- You are requested not to enter other cubicles.
- Please remember to wash your hands after changing nappies.
- Please do not allow your child to share toys with another child, even if sharing a ward.
- Your help will be invaluable in preventing the further spread of infection.

telephone calls

Please limit phone calls from family and friends to the ward. We understand their need to support you, but the extra phone calls take the nurses away from your child's care and add to the noise level of the ward.

- Use of the ward telephone is restricted to incoming calls only, except in an emergency.

emergencies

- Please make sure you familiarise yourself with the location of emergency exits.
- Should it become necessary to evacuate the ward, please remain calm and follow the instructions given by the staff.



the safety of the child is top priority

- We reserve the right to restrict access to the ward.
- Please leave valuables at home or adhere to hospital policy regarding valuables.
- Cot sides are to be pulled up when leaving the bedside.
- Children may only play in designated play areas while under parental supervision.
- When leaving the unit, please ensure that the door closes behind you.

toys

- Toys could be a source of infection – therefore we request that parents bring in their children's own toys.
- Toys should not be shared with other children in the unit.

confidentiality

- Only parents will be given information about their child. Parents are responsible for explaining their child's condition and equipment to their guests, unless they request the sister to give any explanations in your presence.
- We ask that you and your visitors remain at your baby's bedside and refrain from asking questions about other children in the unit.