

Welcome To the Childrens Ward

South Infirmary/Victoria University
Hospital Cork!



We are sure you will receive a big welcome from all staff on the Childrens Ward from admission to the time you go home. Parents ...we do realise that having your child coming to hospital can be a very daunting prospect however we hope that this booklet will prepare you for what actually happens and will dispel some of the fear .Our aim is to make the visit as fun for your child as possible so that the memory for yourself and your child will be a positive one We hope your child enjoys the adventure. . So now it's your child's day of surgery, you are at the hospital what next?

TELL ME ABOUT CHILDRENS WARD...

Our Childrens Ward has 14 beds2 rooms with 4 beds and 3 rooms with 2 beds in each room.

We are very safety conscious on Childrens' Ward and have a buzzer in out system in place at the door. Once you have been buzzed in just make your way to the nurses' station and a nurse will greet you there and show you your bed. We have a lovely playroom which is a hive of activity with lots of toys and trikes, a play station, television and DVD's.

We on Childrens ward work in Partnership with Parents/guardians while caring for your child. We recognise the important role you the parents/guardian play in your child's life . After all you know your child the best !We will be there to support you and your child every step of the way!



On admission we encourage all children to pay a visit to the playroom and to settle into the ward. There is a public cafeteria inside the main entrance of the South Infirmary Complex on the right. A selection of snacks is available. Opening hours: 9:30 am – 17:00pm; Mon to Fri. Parents are welcome to go to the Staff Canteen during the week and at weekends between 7.30am and 5.00pm. A Parent staying overnight with their child is offered breakfast and coffee or tea. The parent/ guardian staying overnight will be given a comfortable chair next to their child .

Car parking

Parking is limited but is available in the car park outside the main entrance of the hospital at South Infirmary side .

Disc parking and clamping is in operation in the streets around the hospital so don't forget about your parking discs if parked on the road. Discs are available from the shop across the road. The spaces are charged at an hourly rate .If staying for 24 hrs the charge is 13.50 Euro.

Fasting Kids!

Ok kids we know its not very nice not having breakfast straight away in the morning but don't worry, when your operation is over you will be getting toast or cereal or maybe even jelly and ice-cream mmmm!

What Should You bring to Hospital?

Please bring pyjamas, dressing gown, slippers, any special comforter / teddy bear / soother, your child's favourite toy, any inhalers or medicine your child is taking. Parents of smaller children bring a hat and socks (unders 2s). Leave valuables at home

Breast milk or Infant formula can be given up to **2am** on the day of surgery. No other food should be given after midnight on the day of surgery.

What happens on the ward?

Once you have arrived on the ward a nurse will show you where your bed is going to be and he/she will need to go through some questions with you and Mom or Dad. The nurse will also ask you to jump on the weighing scales just to see how big you are.



Your nurse will need to check to see how big your muscles are (Blood Pressure) , see what your magic number is (Oxygen Saturations), and will check your Temperature.

Last of all we have lovely colourful gown to put on before you go down to see the doctor....
BUT don't worry Mom or Dad will be dressing up too in a while!!

What happens in theatre?

In theatre everyone wears special green or blue clothes ... they look funny! The nurses and doctors in theatre love having children down to see them and they will be asking you and your Mom or Dad a few questions too. When you go into the theatre with Mom or Dad you can sit or lie on a special bed. A different doctor called an Anaesthetist will see if you can blow up a balloon by blowing into this special bag. This is great fun! You will go for a big sleep and when you wake up your operation will be all over!

Recovery Room



When your operation is finished you will be in the Recovery room with a special nurse who will mind you until you are ready to go back up to the ward with mom or dad. You will also have a little bandage on your hand to cover a special straw that we call 'Freddy'! Your special nurse will be taking this off later before you go home.

Note for Parents:

Some children come back to the ward fully alert and awake; others may be crying or sleepy. Both reactions are normal. All - if it should occur it is quickly treated and resolved by our staff.

ZOOM...

You will be getting a spin back up to Childrens Ward on a special bed called a trolley and then you will be back in your own bed. The nurse will check your blood pressure and pulse again the same as before. You might still feel a bit sleepy but that's ok you can sleep for as long as you like and when you are wide awake the nurse will give you a drink and then something nice to eat too !



Parents

When your child is with us overnight on Childrens Ward a comfortable recliner / armchair for one parent /guardian will be given by the night staff so you can be with your child at all times, which we all know gives great comfort to your child.

Going Home!

If your child is admitted as a day case we usually hang onto your child for at least 2 hours after they come back from theatre. This is to ensure they are recovered from the anaesthetic and do not have post operative complications.

After this time your nurse will talk through the Post operative advice for going home and you will have

**See YOU
soon !!**