

## Kipling Ward Information for Parents and Children

Welcome to Kipling Ward. On arrival to the ward a nurse will introduce themselves and show you around the ward. They will be responsible for planning and providing your child's care and ensuring continuity of care by liaising with other relevant members of staff.



### Staff Identification

All staff wear identification badges with their name and photograph printed on it. Staff wear a number of different uniforms:

- Ward Matron – Purple top with black trousers
- Ward Sister - Navy blue patterned top and navy trousers.
- Staff Nurse – Light blue patterned top and navy trousers.
- Healthcare Assistant – Green patterned top and navy trousers.
- Student nurse - White top and navy trousers or white dress.
- Doctors wear their own clothes and some wear white coats.

### Visiting

There is no restriction on visiting times for parents or main carers. For other family members and friends, visiting is from 8.00am until 8.00pm. We ask parents to be sensitive to their own child's need for rest and to other children on the ward. Most children are settled by 8.00pm when we expect the ward to be quiet.

### Parental Involvement

Our philosophy on Kipling Ward is to encourage shared care, whereby parents and nursing staff are involved together in the child's care. We feel that your child will benefit from this partnership approach by receiving love and security from their family and professional care and expertise from the nursing staff. If you are not comfortable carrying out certain aspects of your child's care please tell your child's nurse.

### Accommodation

Parents are encouraged to stay with their children throughout their admission if they are able to do so. Both parents are welcome to stay, however, there is limited space and number of beds available and therefore we can only provide one bed for parents.

### Items to bring for your child

- Wash bag, toothbrush and toothpaste.
- Hairbrush.
- Day clothes (children can get up and dressed during the day if well enough).
- Pyjamas.
- Slippers.
- Favourite toys.

- Nappies.
- Food or drinks your child particularly likes.

The temperature on the ward is by necessity warm and it is advisable for both parents and children to wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing during the day.

## Security

The safety of your child is very important to us. There are several systems in place to ensure the safety and protection of the children, visitors and staff.

Every child admitted to the ward will have an identity bracelet with their name, date of birth and hospital unit number.

Access into the ward is by video entry phone system only.

Video cameras are placed at various points around the ward and these are observed from a central point. If you notice anyone behaving suspiciously please inform staff immediately. Hospital security guards and back-up are available very quickly.

## Doctors Rounds

A Consultant, a Registrar and at least one junior doctor will review your child each day on the ward round which starts at approximately 09.30 each day.

## Discharge

As soon as the date of discharge has been confirmed your nurse will ensure that you are informed.

1. Medicines will be ordered and the nurse will check them with you and ensure that you understand any instructions.
2. If requested by a doctor, a follow up appointment will be made and either given to you or posted within a week.
3. A discharge letter will be given to you, and will be sent to your GP, outlining why your child was in hospital, who their Consultant was, what treatment was given and any follow up treatment or medications.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's discharge please ask your nurse. Once at home you may find your child is quieter than usual, more easily upset or more demanding. These are common reactions whilst they readjust to being at home and should not last long.

If you are worried about your child's condition within the first 24 hours following discharge, contact the ward for advice. After this time contact your own GP.

## Schooling, Play and Recreation

Play is very important for children in hospital. It allows them to express their feelings, relieves boredom, aids recovery and enables them to return to normality. We have a well-equipped playroom on the ward. Your child is welcome to go to the playroom or have toys taken to the bed if unable to get up or in isolation. Please supervise children in the playroom, including siblings and visitors, to ensure their safety and prevent damage to the toys.

We are able to liaise with the education authority who will organise a teacher for any child who is going to be in hospital for longer than a week during term time. You can also ask your child's own teacher for work to be set for them, or their teacher is welcome to visit your child if well enough. This can be particularly important for young people in their GCSE year.

## Refreshments

All food and drink will be provided for your child. We also provide food for breastfeeding mothers.

There is a hospital restaurant on Level 4, serving breakfast, lunch, snacks and hot and cold drinks. Within the restaurant area are several vending machines for patients' and visitors' use.

There is also a Coffee Shop/Bakery and a League of Friends shop on Level 3 in the main entrance.

Tea and coffee can be made in the ward kitchen and parents are asked to contribute if using our supplies as we buy it for you.

NB: Parents are asked not to use the kitchen to make drinks for themselves during children's mealtimes so that housekeeping staff can prepare hot meals and clear up. Children are not allowed in the kitchen.

## Telephone/Television

Please be mindful when using your mobile phones within the ward areas as they may cause interference to electronic monitoring equipment, cause a disturbance to other sick or sleeping children and pose a possible risk to the safety and security of our patients. **Taking photographs of children other than your own, or of staff, is not allowed.**

Each bed has above it a television/telephone. The television is free for the children from morning until 7.00pm after which time it closes down to ensure that the children are allowed plenty of sleep. You will need to purchase a card in order to watch the television after 7.00pm but please use headphones so as not to disturb other patients. You can also use this card to make telephone calls from this system but you can receive calls without a card. Follow the instructions on the screen or handset.

We regret that parents and visitors are not permitted to make or receive personal calls on the ward telephone.

## Smoking

All East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust sites currently operate a strict no-smoking policy. Visitors and patients are asked not to smoke within hospital grounds. Visitors smoking outside are asked not to litter the hospital grounds.

## Other Sources of information

Kipling Ward Direct Line:	(01424) 758039
Kipling Short Stay Paediatric Assessment Unit (SSPAU)	(01424) 757507
East Sussex Healthcare (Hastings) Switchboard:	(01424) 755255

## Important information

This patient information is for guidance purposes only and is not provided to replace professional clinical advice from a qualified practitioner.

## Your comments

We are always interested to hear your views about our leaflets. If you have any comments, please contact the Patient Experience Team – Tel: (01323) 417400 Ext: 5860 or by email at: [esh-tr.patientexperience@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.patientexperience@nhs.net)

## Hand hygiene

The trust is committed to maintaining a clean, safe environment. Hand hygiene is very important in controlling infection. Alcohol gel is widely available at the patient bedside for staff use and at the entrance of each clinical area for visitors to clean their hands before and after entering.

## Other formats

**If you require any of the Trust leaflets in alternative formats, such as large print or alternative languages, please contact the Equality and Human Rights Department.**

**Tel: (01424) 755255 Ext: 2620**

After reading this information are there any questions you would like to ask? Please list below and ask your nurse or doctor.

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## Reference

The following clinicians have been consulted and agreed this patient information:  
Caroline Stephenson, Practice Educator, Paediatrics.

The Clinical Specialty/Unit that have agreed this patient information leaflet:

Next review date: March 2020  
Responsible clinician/author: Caroline Stephenson, Practice Educator, Paediatrics.