The Leeds Teaching Hospitals
NHS Trust

Children's Orthopaedics and Plastics

Pre-admission Information

Information for parents

leeds children's hospital

caring about children

Whether your child is coming into the Leeds General Infirmary (LGI) as an inpatient or a day case, it can be an anxiety provoking and worrisome time, for you and your child. This short information leaflet will help you prepare and explain what you can expect.

Date for surgery

A decision has been made with you that your child needs an operation. Your child's name will be added to the consultant's waiting list and a date for surgery will be arranged. We aim to give you approximately 2 weeks notice before the operation date; however, please note there may be occasions where this is not possible. For example, we may contact you to offer the operation at short notice to accommodate last minute cancellations.

Pre-assessment

This is usually conducted as a telephone appointment where you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's planned surgery with the children's specialist pre-assessment team. It will be highlighted and arranged by the pre-assessment team if any blood tests or MRSA swabs are required. If necessary, you may also be contacted by the specialist nursing team, occupational therapists or physiotherapists before surgery takes place. Usually, the pre-assessment team will contact you up to 2 weeks before surgery takes place.

We cannot proceed with surgery before this appointment is completed.

Admission day

1. What to bring on the day
    - The admission letter.
    - Please bring all medication / inhalers your child uses.

- We do not routinely give pain relief for you to take home with you. Most families already have Paracetamol (Calpol™) and Ibuprofen (Nurofen™) at home. Please check that you have some and as part of the discharge process, we will tell you your child's dosage to take at home after this procedure.
- Please ensure your child is wearing loose comfortable clothing (e.g. pyjamas). Please avoid coming to theatre in onesies, any one-piece outfit, tight jeans / trousers.
- It is advisable to bring an extra change of clothes, nappies, if required and any comforters or favourite toys.
- If your child has a favourite food, you are welcome to provide this to consume, following surgery.
- If you have other children, we ask that you make childcare plans for the whole day and that you do not bring them with you as space is limited.

2. If you will need an interpreter, please inform the secretary **before** admission.
3. Please tell the secretary or ward staff if your child has been in contact with an infectious disease like chicken pox or measles, or is unwell during the 48 hours before the date of admission. Your child's surgery may have to be postponed.
4. **Please follow the fasting instructions for the time your child is coming in, either morning or afternoon (see admission letter).**

If your child has eaten beyond these times, they cannot have their operation on the day and will be sent home. It is dangerous to have an anaesthetic if your stomach has anything in it.

7:30 am admission for the morning operating list

- **2.30 am** is the latest your child can have any food and most drinks - this includes milk, formula milk feed, fizzy drinks, thickened drinks, smoothies, fruit juice and sweets.
- **4.30 am** is the latest that breast milk can be given.
- Please encourage your child to continue to drink water or clear diluted squash / cordial such as Robinsons or similar until they arrive at hospital.
- Your child can continue sipping on the ward, unless told otherwise.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER that ALL thickened fluids are the same as milk and food for safety purposes. Thickened water is still a thickened fluid and must not be taken after 2.30 am.**

12 noon admission for the afternoon operating list

- **7.30 am** is the latest your child can have any food and most drinks - this includes milk, formula milk feed, fizzy drinks, thickened drinks, smoothies, fruit juice and sweets.
- **9.30 am** is the latest that breast milk can be given.
- Please encourage your child to continue to drink water or clear diluted squash / cordial such as Robinsons or similar until they arrive at hospital.
- Your child can continue sipping on the ward, unless told otherwise.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER that ALL thickened fluids are the same as milk and food for safety purposes. Thickened water is still a thickened fluid and must not be taken after 7.30 am.**

Children should continue to take their regular medications / inhalers as usual during the fasting period, unless advised otherwise; however, any medicines that your child takes with / in food should not be taken until after the procedure.

5. Sometimes, due to unforeseen circumstances, your child may be cancelled on the day of surgery. If this happens, then we will endeavor to give you a new date for operation before you leave or our waiting list co-ordinator will contact you after you have gone home to arrange this.
6. Admission process
    - A nurse will show you round the ward and fill in some forms with you. Your child's height, weight, temperature, pulse and blood pressure will be checked.
    - If your child is aged 12 years or over, they will need to take a pregnancy test on the ward before their procedure. Please follow the link for further details: **http://flipbooks.leedsth.nhs.uk/LN004605.pdf**
    - You will be seen by a doctor and the anaesthetist before your child goes to the operating theatre. Only one parent will be allowed in the anaesthetic room where your child goes to sleep. You will be called to the recovery room as soon as your child wakes up.

7. Transport

- If your child is travelling home on the same day as their procedure, they cannot travel home on public transport. Please make sure you have arranged transport via your own car or taxi.
- Please note parents / carers must book their own ambulance transport if required to come to hospital. Please contact the secretary for further details.

Ward

Two visitors are allowed with the child at any one time. One parent can stay with the child overnight. We have pull out beds available for you to use by your child's beside at night.

A daily ward round takes place on L41 to make ongoing decisions about your child's care. This usually takes place at approximately 8.15 am.

Contact details

Children's Orthopaedic Team: (Monday - Friday, 8.00 am - 5.00 pm)	**0113 3928570**
Pre-assessment:	**0113 3923167**
Children's Surgical Assessment Lounge (CSAL):	**0113 3926502**
Ward L49 (Day Case):	**0113 3927449**
Ward L41:	**0113 3927441**
Occupational Therapy:	**0113 3923612**
Physiotherapy:	**0113 3926610**

Orthopaedic secretaries

Mr Davies:	**0113 3925713**
Ms Deriu:	**0113 3923872**
Ms Fishlock:	**0113 3926697**
Mr Foster:	**0113 3923819**
Mr Holton:	**0113 3925757**
Miss Robinson:	**0113 3923819**
Mr Sabouni:	**0113 3926697**

Plastic secretaries

Mr Baines:	**0113 3922864**
Ms Bourke:	**0113 3922896**
Miss Hernon:	**0113 3922898**
Professor Kay:	**0113 3922898**

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