

# Welcome to L52

Information for parents/carers



Leeds children's  
hospital

caring about children

We hope this leaflet will help to answer any questions you have about L52 and what to expect when your child is admitted.

**Location:** D Floor Clarendon Wing LGI

**Tel:** 0113 392 7452 / 0113 392 7552

## About the ward

We are a regional unit specialising in neurology and neurosurgery. We accept children from across North and West Yorkshire, as well as Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Our ward provides specialist care for diagnosing and treating neurological disorders in children who already have a paediatrician involved in their care. We also have a specialist neurorehabilitation service involving neurorehab consultants, physiotherapist and occupational therapists.

We are a 12 bedded ward and allow parents to stay with their child 24/7. We encourage parents to be involved in their child's care. We have accommodation for one parent to stay at their child's bedside overnight.

## Accommodation outside the ward

Eckersley House is a place for parents to stay who live outside of the Leeds area and/or have a seriously unwell child at Leeds General Infirmary (LGI). Eckersley House enables families to stay together whilst their child is being cared for. It is situated opposite the Clarendon Wing entrance, so families are not far away from their child.

The house has 22 family rooms (including four en-suite rooms). There are laundry rooms and three communal kitchens.

There is high demand for rooms at Eckersley House, so please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff about making a referral to stay here.

More informaton about Eckersley House is available by clicking on this link:

[www.sickchildrenstrust.org/homes-from-home/eckersley-house](http://www.sickchildrenstrust.org/homes-from-home/eckersley-house)

## Conditions that we treat

As a regional centre we see many different conditions. Here is a list of the most common conditions that we treat on the ward.

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Neurology</b>     | Epilepsy - complex epilepsy, ketogenic diet<br>Transverse myelitis<br>Encephalitis<br>Myasthenia gravis<br>Congenital syndromes   |
| <b>Neurosurgical</b> | Brain and spinal tumours - debulking of tumours<br>Hydrocephalus - VP shunt insertions/ETV<br>Chiari Malformation correction surgery<br>Spinal untethering surgery<br>Craniofacial surgery<br>Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy surgery (SDR)<br>Intrathecal baclofen pump insertion |

## Who will you meet?

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Matron</b>                       | Sarah Fletcher  |
| <b>Ward Manager</b>                 | Julie Cooper  |
| <b>Sisters</b>                      | Lucy Thompson<br>Hannah Geldart<br>Kay Hirst  |
| <b>Play Specialist</b>              | Kirsty Redshaw<br>Claire Pickering  |
| <b>Consultant<br/>Neurosurgeons</b> | Mr John Goodden<br>Mr Gnanamurthy Sivakumar<br>Mr Atul Tyagi<br>Mr Paul Chumas  |
| <b>Consultant<br/>Neurologists</b>  | Dr Anne-Marie Childs<br>Dr Shanawaz Hussain<br>Dr Helen Mccullagh<br>Dr Karen Pysden<br>Dr Rajib Lodh (Consultant in<br>neuro rehabilitation) |
| <b>Physician Associate</b>          | Wajeeha Tariq   |
| <b>Ward Clerks</b>                  | Aileen Haysom<br>Lauren Carter  |

The ward also has qualified children's nurses, doctors and clinical support workers who have years of experience in neurosciences. These professionals work alongside other members of the multidisciplinary team to provide high quality care for their patients. These include:

- Physiotherapists
- Occupational therapists
- Dieticians
- School teachers
- Speech and language team
- Neurophysiologists

## How we care for your child

Your child may be transferred to L52 from PICU/HDU, another hospital or A&E. We understand that this can be a very worrying and scary time for you and your child.

If your child has been transferred from a critical care setting, be reassured that by moving to L52 your child is recovering and no longer needs intensive care treatment.

Our staff nurses care for up to four children per nurse. This can be a big difference if your child has previously had one nurse with them all the time. We understand that this transition can be very stressful. Please speak to a member of staff if there is anything we can do to help or if you need a break from the ward.

Our nurses, care support workers and students will perform regular observations on your child. This includes monitoring their heart rate, blood pressure, temperature and respiration rate.

We will also be observing how alert your child is. This will involve checking their pupils, seeing how they respond to questions and commands (age appropriate) and how strong they are. An example would be asking them to squeeze our hands or asking your child to push us away using their arms and legs.

Our student nurses and trainee nursing associates work alongside our nurses to help care for your child.

Your child will be allocated a nurse for their whole shift. Your nurse may not always be visible as they may be preparing medication or in nursing handover. If you need someone urgently please press the nurse call button by the bedside and someone will be with you as soon as possible.

### **Nursing shift times**

**Day shift:** 7:00am - 7:30pm

**Night shift:** 7:00pm - 7:30am

Our consultants normally start their ward round after 8:30am, but please be aware that this time might change. Our ward doctors may not be on the ward all the time but please be reassured that they can be easily contacted to come and review your child.

On the ward we have a large play room. We understand how important play is for children, helping with their development and making their stay in hospital more positive. Our play specialists are on hand to help bring fun activities to your child's bedside if they are unable to move from their bed space. Our play specialists will also be able to help your child when having a procedure such as blood tests or cannula insertion.

## Facilities

On the ward we have a parent's room which includes a sofa and television. Parents can store food in the fridge/freezer and use the microwave provided. We advise you to put a label on your food with your child's name on when leaving things in the parent's room. Tea and coffee facilities are provided, however we do ask for a small donation. Children are not advised to be in the parent's room due to the health and safety risk relating to hot drinks and food.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided for your child. You will be given a menu to fill out on behalf of your child for lunch and dinner. This menu will be for the next day's meals. Do not worry if you have not filled a menu on admission - we can provide you with a meal voucher to use in the canteen. Unfortunately we do not provide meals for parents.

We have a snack trolley available for all the children on the ward which includes fruit, biscuits and drinks.

There are facilities within Clarendon Wing where you can get food and drinks. There is a food court located on C floor which serves hot meals, sandwiches and drinks. On A floor there is a Costa Coffee and Deli-Marche shop.

### Opening times:

- Food court - Breakfast 7am-11am
  - Lunch 11am-2pm
  - Dinner 2pm-6pm

## Parking

There is a limited number of pay and display parking spaces outside Clarendon Wing. However this is a multi-storey car park outside Jubilee Wing. Please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff for guidance of where to find these car parks.

If you live outside of Leeds and your child is likely to be staying in hospital for a long period of time, you may be able to obtain a parking permit. Please speak to our ward clerk or your child's nurse regarding applying for a permit.

## Feedback

On ward L52 we aim to ensure that you and your child have a positive hospital experience. Providing us with feedback will help to improve services and give feedback to staff members. When your child is discharged from the ward you will be able to borrow a ward L52 iPad to provide feedback on the friends and family test if you wish.

If you have any concerns during your child's stay in hospital please speak to your nurse as soon as possible. We will aim to help resolve any worries you may have.



### What did you think of your care?

Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/nhsleedsfft](https://bit.ly/nhsleedsfft)

*Your views matter*



© The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust • 1st edition (Ver 1)

Developed by: Fiona Dale, Staff Nurse

Produced by: Medical Illustration Services • MID code: 20210406\_003

LN005025  
Publication date  
06/2021  
Review date  
06/2023