

## Visiting Restrictions during COVID-19 Children's Ward

In order to maintain a safe environment for our patients, families and staff we have changed visiting arrangements on the ward. We need to ensure that this is done safely, ensuring social distancing and other government advice is followed. Please read this guidance carefully.

We understand this is a very difficult time and the staff will endeavour to support families any way we can. The purpose of the current visiting restrictions are to help maintain a safe environment within the hospital and to ensure we are following current government guidance.

### Who can visit?

Visiting to the ward is strictly **ONE** parent/carer per family which must continue to be the same person. The resident parent/ carer will be tested for COVID-19 on the day of your child's admission, days 4 and 7 and weekly thereafter, along with your child.

If your child is sent to the assessment unit from the Emergency Department, we are only able to accommodate **ONE** parent/carer. This is to ensure we are able to socially distance in the unit.

At the time of admitting your child to hospital, we understand you may not have expected to stay overnight so you can choose to swap with another parent/carer. You must do this as soon as possible within the first few hours of admission. If your child is expected to stay for longer than 3 days, you will be able to swap over and we will advise you when you will need to be tested.

We understand that it is not always possible for a parent to be resident with their child whilst they are in hospital or that some parents may be separated. In these circumstances, please speak with the nursing staff who will discuss the options available in order to support you and your child.

We can also arrange Virtual Visits with other family members if you do not have the facilities to do so yourself. Please speak to a member of the nursing staff to arrange this.

### How do I arrange a second visitor?

The current restrictions on ward 17 remain that one parent can stay on the ward.

A second parent/guardian or someone from your support bubble is able to come **ONCE** a day for a **ONE** hour visit between 1:00pm-7:00pm. This must be the same person each day. Siblings are not able to visit in person; however a Virtual Visit can be arranged which staff can support with if required or exceptional circumstances apply.

In order to limit the amount of people on the ward at any one time we ask that you either arrange with the other parent who can inform staff of your visit. Alternatively, call the ward on 01535 292171 to book your visiting slot.

In order to ensure the safety of all our patients, families and staff we ask that the visitors adhere to strict social distancing at all times, including when you return home.

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Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn whilst visiting. Hands must be sanitised on entry and exit of the ward. Failure to wear the above protective equipment will result in the visit not being able to take place.

### Arriving at the hospital

	<p>You must always bring and wear a mask or face covering when you are in the hospital building</p>
	<p>Clean your hands using the disinfectant hand sanitiser provided or soap and water where available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on arrival to the hospital on entering the ward</li> <li>• when putting on or taking off any personal protective equipment (PPE) or face coverings</li> <li>• on leaving the your child's bed space</li> <li>• on leaving the ward</li> <li>• on leaving the hospital building</li> <li>• as soon as you get home</li> </ul>
	<p>You will be provided with a surgical face mask to wear on the ward.        Please keep the mask on for the duration of your time in the hospital and avoid touching your face or adjusting the mask once you've put it on.</p> <p>If you are not able to wear a face mask for health reasons, please speak to a member of staff</p>
	<p>The Trust follows government <b>two metre social distancing</b> guidance wherever possible in the hospital. You are asked to adhere to this during your visit, including all communal areas and lifts. You will witness that this is not possible for staff when caring for patients.</p>
	<p>Children are not permitted to leave their bed area (except for using the bathroom). Parents can leave the ward briefly to use the telephone or visit the shop but we suggest these visits should be kept to a minimum.</p> <p>You will be advised by a nurse which toilet facilities to use.</p>
	<p>The play room is open when the play leader is here, to be used on a one to one basis. It will be thoroughly cleaned in between patient use. The play leader will allocate time slots for children to attend if wanted. Alternatively, toys can be provided at the bedside.</p>

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	<p>The ward garden area can be used by patients and their parent/carer. Masks must be worn even though the space is outdoors for protection for the wards above. Hands must be washed before and after using the garden.</p> <p>Please also be aware that ward directly above the garden may be used for patients with COVID-19.</p> <p>Please refrain from consuming food and drink in this area. You must ask a member of staff in order for them to unlock the door to the garden and also inform them when you return inside so that the door can be locked again for the safety of all patients.</p>
	<p>Parents who are staying will be provided with meals. You may purchase refreshments from either of the hospital shops located in Zone A1 and Zone C21 or the hospital restaurant located at C</p> <p>You and your child will have a COVID-19 swab on admission and subsequent days throughout their stay. If this result is negative and you are not displaying clinical signs of COVID-19 you will be able to use the parents room located on ward 17.</p>
	<p><b>The doors to the ward are on a swipe access. Inform a member of staff if you need to leave and they will open the doors for you.</b></p> <p>You should then follow the signs to leave the ward.</p> <p>Please do not visit any other part of the hospital.</p> <p>You should dispose of your mask at the bin by the department exit.</p>

### Bringing in items from home

Family members are able to drop off any supplies needed. A member of staff will meet them at the ward entrance to exchange any personal items and deliver them to you. Unfortunately we cannot allow family members to meet within the hospital as this would increase contact and risk of spreading the infection.

### Supporting Relatives Services

You may choose to use other services set up for relatives at this time. They include: A pick up/ drop off service for belongings, Care Parcel and a 'Sending Hugs' service to deliver get well wishes. More information is available on our website: [www.airedale-trust.nhs.uk/covid-19-patient-information/](http://www.airedale-trust.nhs.uk/covid-19-patient-information/)

If you have any further questions or wish to discuss further please contact a member of the ward staff, the ward manager, Lorna Wilkinson or matron for children's services, Kirsty Randell.

If you require this leaflet in other languages or formats please telephone the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01535 294019