Bellhouse Drayson Ward

Admission to Bellhouse Drayson Ward with flu-like symptoms

Information for parents
Your child has been admitted to Bellhouse Drayson with flu-like symptoms which need observation and/or treatment. We are not certain if your child has influenza H1N1 (swine flu) but the medical team have decided that your child should be monitored in hospital. In line with the advice you have already received from the A&E department, we ask that you follow the following guidance to prevent the spread of on the ward.

**Visitors**

We ask that only 1 parent visits the child at a time and that no other visitors come up to the ward. This is to prevent the spread of any viruses. Brothers and sisters should not visit - if this is difficult for you please speak to one of the nurses about it.

One parent may sleep next to their child during their stay on the ward.

**Masks and protective equipment**

All staff will wear a mask and apron when looking after every child who has flu-like symptoms. Staff will also where gloves if they need to touch your child. This may seem frightening to your child but it is a necessary to prevent any viruses from spreading to other patients and staff.

While you are with your child, you do not need to wear a face mask if you do not have flu-like symptoms. However, if you have any symptoms (coughing, sore throat or a temperature) we may ask that you go home and that someone else comes to be with your child. If you are showing symptoms of flu we will ask you to wear a face mask until you have left the ward area.
Hand washing

We ask that you wash your hands before leaving the room and again before entering. Hand washing will help to reduce the spread of the virus. Alcohol gel is another way to clean your hands and is available in every room, and outside most outer doors. Please use it.

Facilities

Parents who do not have flu-like symptoms may use the communal facilities as normal (please see ward staff for more information). These include parent’s toilet and shower, beverage room and parents sitting room. If you have any symptoms please speak to your nurse who will advise you on where you go for refreshments and toilet facilities.

Toys

Your child is very welcome to have some toys from the playroom but they must be ones that can be wiped clean afterwards for infection control reasons. Also we ask that your child does not use the playroom.

Food & drink

Meals will be provided for your child as normal. Please ask a member of the nursing team if your child requires a special diet.

Thank you very much for reading and complying with the guidance in this information leaflet. We understand that this is a stressful and worrying time for you and your family. We have to introduce these special safety measures to protect the other children and to reduce the risk of the virus spreading.
How to contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about the information in this leaflet, please speak to one of the nurses, or contact:

Emma Corrigan, Bellhouse Drayson on 01865 234049.

If you need an interpreter or need a document in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call 01865 221473. When we receive your call we may transfer you to an interpreter. This can take some time, so please be patient.