Children’s Clinical Decision Unit (CDU)
Information for patients and parents/carers
Children’s Clinical Decision Unit (CDU) is on Level 1 of the John Radcliffe Hospital main building, next to the Children’s Intensive Care Unit and the Emergency Department.

**Children’s Clinical Decision Unit**

Level 1, John Radcliffe Hospital  
Headley Way  
Headington  
Oxford OX3 9DU  
Tel: 01865 223 028 / 226 876  
John Radcliffe Hospital switchboard: 0300 304 7777

**Welcome to Children’s CDU**

Patients come to Children’s CDU:
- directly from the Emergency Department;
- as emergencies or urgent referrals from their GP; or
- as outpatients, for planned appointments, clinical investigations or procedures.

There are separate queues for the various specialist teams in CDU. Although we can be very busy at times, we do our best to see children admitted as emergencies within four hours of their arrival.

The Unit is open 24 hours a day, so there may be lights and noise at night-time, although we try to keep noise levels low. If your child needs anything while they are on the Unit, or you have any concerns, please let us know as soon as possible.

If your child is well enough, we may ask you to take them home to sleep at night. If so, please arrange transport for them if you possibly can.
John Radcliffe Hospital main entrance Level 2: take lift or stairs to Level 1 and follow signs for Children’s CDU.
Our staff

Nurses and a Nursing Assistants work on the Unit 24 hours a day. A Consultant Paediatrician works on the Unit from 10.00am to 10.00pm, and there are two Advanced Nurse Practitioners, who are specially trained, experienced nurses. We also have a Play Specialist.

Facilities on Children’s CDU

We provide food for children on the Unit. We have a small selection of ready-to-feed baby formula, jars, cow’s milk and squash. We can also provide cereal, sandwiches and light meals.

For safety reasons, please do not bring any hot drinks on to the Unit.

The toilet and baby change facility is near the waiting room, next to the staff room. There are other toilets in the corridor outside the Unit.

Visiting Children’s CDU

Only two adult visitors per child at any one time please. Please do not bring other children to the Unit, to reduce the risk of spreading infections.

If you are waiting for the results of blood tests or investigations, you may leave the Unit if you check first with the nurse.

Please turn your mobile phone to silent mode so as not to disturb others. There is no reception on the Unit, but there is free WiFi: ‘OUH-Guest’.

Please, do not film or take any photographs on the Unit.
Going home

Children can stay on the Unit for up to 24 hours before either being discharged home or admitted to one of the children’s wards in Oxford Children’s Hospital.

If your child is able to go home, we will give you any medication or advice you need to care for them at home. We will also let you know if follow-up visits are necessary, and where to get further medical advice.

Feedback

We welcome your feedback.

Please complete our feedback survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/3pmbfg8 or pick up a paper form on the Unit. You can also email feedback@ouh.nhs.uk

Further information

For further information, please see the booklet ‘John Radcliffe Hospital – Information for patients’, available from the hospital main reception or volunteers’ desk on Level 2, or on our website via: www.ouh.nhs.uk/hospitals/jr
If you have a specific requirement, need an interpreter, a document in Easy Read, another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221 473** or email **PALS@ouh.nhs.uk**

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www.ouh.nhs.uk/information