

## **Children's Clinical Decision Unit (CDU), Level 0, JR**

### **Welcome to Children's CDU**

We are a small dynamic team which consists of Pediatricians, ANPs, Nurses, Nursing Associates, CSWs, play specialist & ward clerk. We work extremely closely with a team of Consultant Paediatricians, Specialty Registrars, Registrars & SHOs to provide the best possible care for children, and their families, who require urgent medical care.

Please contact us as soon as possible by calling 01865 223028 or 01865 226663, ideally between 08:30 and 18:30, and ask to speak to the Student Coordinator. If they are not available, please obtain their OUH email address so contact can be made electronically. The student coordinator is responsible for allocating Practice Supervisors & Practice Assessors, writing student off duty, sending out student welcome packs and organizing Orientation.

**Children's CDU** is a paediatric short stay assessment unit for children aged 0- 16 years referred from several sources such as ED, GP's, Inpatient Wards, for continuing treatment such as IV Antibiotics, and Outpatient clinics, investigations, or treatment. Primarily these are paediatric general medical patients but can occasionally be paediatric surgical or specialty patients if agreed by the CDU Consultant. We are currently located on Level 0 (on Bellhouse-Drayson Ward) and have 4 beds, a cubicle, an observed seating area and a playroom/waiting room. The Children should not stay in CDU for more than 24 hours before being either transferred to an inpatient bed in the Children's hospital (CHOX) or discharged home. (Please note this configuration may change if the unit is relocated to due to service needs or exceptional circumstances).

### **Key learning opportunities during the placement**

- Rapid Assessment skills
- Respiratory Assessment including Chest Auscultation
- Managing common childhood respiratory conditions e.g., Asthma, croup, Bronchiolitis, VIW
- Administering nebulisers & inhalers and teaching families to do so
- Using a sepsis tool effectively
- Allergic reactions or Anaphylaxis including Auto-injector training
- Obtaining specimens e.g., clean catch urine, throat swabs, Nasopharyngeal aspirates (NPA)
- Preparation for investigations and following a child's journey e.g., X-Ray, MRI, or CT
- Assisting with blood tests
- Developing & ending therapeutic relationships
- Multidisciplinary team working
- Observing nurse led discharges
- Observing parent resuscitation training

### **Suggested spoke placements**

- Allergy Clinic with Allergy Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
- Asthma Clinic with Asthma CNS
- ED with CDU Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP)
- CDU ANP
- Safeguarding Team

- Paediatric Critical Care Outreach Team

## **Contact details**

CDU is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year.

## **Shift times**

Day shifts are: - 07:30 – 20:00

Night Shifts are: - 19:30 – 08:00

## **Interdisciplinary learning**

You will find the following students on CDU

- Children's Nursing students
- Children's/Mental Health Dual students
- Nursing Associate Trainees
- Children's Nursing Apprenticeships

## **Local education programmes**

- Teaching Board
- Ad hoc teaching - conditions and skills – as opportunity arises
- SHO Teaching Wednesday 08:00 – 08:30
- Septic Spot Wednesday 13:00 -14:00 (not 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month)
- Grand round Wednesday 16:00 – 17:00
- Journal Club Friday 13:00 – 14:00

## **Useful reading for the placement**

- Oxford Handbook of Paediatrics (Oxford Medical Handbooks 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Edition), Oxford University Press
- Common Acute Medical Conditions including Asthma, Bronchiolitis, croup, viral induced wheeze, UTI, Gastroenteritis, Henoch Schoenlein Purpura, Idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, Acute childhood limp, allergic reactions
- [NHS website](#), [NICE website](#) or [OUH website](#) for Acute medical Conditions as above