

Horton Children's Ward

Welcome to the area

First, welcome to the children's ward, we hope you enjoy your time with us. Below is some information which you may find helpful and interesting to read before you start your placement with us

Please contact the placement as soon as possible

How to find us

Children's Ward
Horton General Hospital
Oxford Road
Banbury
Oxfordshire OX16 9AL

Tel: 01295 (2)29001 / 29002

Access

There are two entrances to the Children's Ward both of which are secure. On your first day please enter the hospital via the main entrance: the Children's Ward is directly on your right hand side on floor 0 of the lift. Ring the bell and a member of staff will show you where to store your belongings and to the staff room for handover.

When you have started your placement you should be able to activate your swipe card so you can then access the ward. Car parking permits are available and can be applied for in the car parking office (white building opposite the children's play area).

Information about the placement

Ward introduction

The Children's Ward is a 16-bed unit which cares for children between 0-18years. (16-18years- only if they are under a paediatric consultant).

We look after children with conditions requiring treatment under the following specialties:

- Medicine
- Day surgery
- Orthopaedics

Children are admitted to the ward via:

- GP
- Accident and Emergency
- Planned admissions from home
- Open access

We also have children coming in as ward attenders who attend for a short time for antibiotics, dressings, urgent bloods or reviews.

We also have a paediatric outpatients department where consultants hold clinics and we conduct a phlebotomy clinic.

On certain days of the week we hold clinics on the ward for tests or day surgery for specialities including:

- Dentals
- Max fax
- ENT
- Plastics
- Allergy

We also provide a supportive care oncology service for children who live locally

We **do not** have a high dependency unit or intensive care unit for children at the Horton therefore patients who are very unwell will be transferred.

What can I learn whilst on the Children's Ward?

Your assessor/supervisors will orientate you to the ward on your first shift and during your **initial interview** with them you can identify **individual learning objectives**. Whilst on the Children's Ward you will have the opportunity to help care for many different children with a wide variety of conditions and their families, practising and developing numerous nursing skills.

Below are some objectives you can work towards achieving whilst on the Children's Ward.

- Admit and assess a child and plan, implement, and evaluate care using appropriate paperwork.
- Discharge a child and family effectively, using necessary discharge advice leaflets.
- Visit different areas of the hospital and work with the wider multi-disciplinary team.

Suggested spoke placements

- Accident and Emergency
- Paediatric Outpatients
- Theatres
- Midwifery Led Unit

(These are also important places to utilise for your spoke placements)

Typical shift patterns, days department is open

Our ward runs a 24-hour service therefore the nursing staff do a combination of:

Long days: 07:30 - 20:00

Night shifts: 19:30 - 08:00

Please report to the staff room in good time for your shift to receive handover.

You will be shadowing your assessor and supervisor's shifts; therefore, you will also be doing 12.5-hour shifts including an hour's break.

You should be given your first off duty via email from the student co-ordinators before you start your placement, so please contact the ward on the telephone numbers provided. The remaining off duty will be released for nurses first then student's shifts will be completed. Any problems that arise with your off duty please speak to a member of staff.

If you are travelling by train and weekend shifts are difficult or you will be late then please inform a member of staff.

Useful reading for the placement

The Children's Ward can be very busy. However, there are also times when it is much quieter.

Previous students have often asked what they can do when the ward is quiet. Below are a few ideas and subjects you may want to read up on before you start your placement.

1. Always keep **your Portfolio** at hand, ask your mentor if you can spend some time working on this if the ward is quiet.
2. **Research conditions/treatments** you may see on the ward, which are all common childhood illness or conditions.
 - Asthma
 - Bronchiolitis
 - Constipation
 - Croup
 - Febrile Convulsions
 - Gastroenteritis
 - Meningitis
 - Pneumonia
 - Urinary Tract Infection
 - HSP (Henoch Schoenlein Purpura)
 - Diabetes
 - Epilepsy
 - Head Injury
 - Fractures
 - Rare Genetic Disorders
 - Common childhood cancers and sickle cell disease

You will have access to the hospital intranet where medical protocols are displayed.

3. **Research medications** used in treatment of the above conditions – using the 5 Rs.