

## **Tom's Ward – CHOX Level 1**

### **Welcome to the Children's general surgery ward**

The ward caters for babies from a few hours old to 17-year-olds (if the adolescent ward is full). Our specialities are neonatal surgery, Urology, gastro surgery, orthopaedics and trauma. We have 20 beds which are divided into 6 cubicles, 2 observation bays and 6 neonatal cots. There is a more detailed list of the common conditions and surgeries seen on the ward in the ward welcome booklet which will be emailed out to you prior to your start date.

**Ward contact details:** 01865 (2)34111

When you start on the ward you will be allocated an assessor. They will aim to meet with you on a regular basis to discuss your progress, and help you achieve your competencies. You will also be allocated a number of supervisors. Please remember to request written feedback from each shift.

Shift patterns are 07:30-20:00 and 19:30-08:00. Students are expected to work a combination of shifts during their placement; this includes weekends and nights.

If you are sick please phone the ward and let the coordinator know you will not be in. This is so we are able to keep an accurate record of your hours worked.

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

- Pre op surgical care and preparation for surgery
- Post op surgical nursing care for a variety of surgical procedures
- Wound care management including wound drains
- Medicines management
- Pain assessment and pain management
- Fluid balance
- Feeding regimes
- Enteral feeding
- Assessing and planning care
- Physio/OT assessments
- Stoma care
- Catheter care
- Teamwork and multi-disciplinary working
- Safeguarding
- Neonatal care

There are many link placement opportunities which may help you to further understand and participate in each child's care. Some of them are:

- Working with play specialists
- Observing an operation in theatre
- Observing Ultrasound scans, MAG3 and contrast studies
- Shadowing the ward co-ordinator

- Attending clinics
- Working with clinical nurse specialists such as orthopaedic surgical nurse, stoma care nurse and children's surgical gastro specialist
- Working alongside TPN pharmacist, dietitian, SALT
- Shadowing outreach team
- Shadowing Pain team
- Surgical M&M
- Attending a discharge planning meeting/MDT/Safeguarding meetings
- Any study sessions available on the ward that may be relevant
- Student school

### **Useful reading for the placement**

Prior to starting a placement on Tom's, it would be useful to familiarize yourself with some of the common surgical conditions and procedures as listed in the ward welcome booklet.

Once on placement there are a number of care pathways which would help develop knowledge of post op care.