

Melanie's Ward

Welcome to Melanie's Ward

We are an adolescent unit covering all specialties so you will have the opportunity to look after a wide range of patients with different healthcare needs. We pride ourselves in working well as a team and our students are included in that philosophy.

We look after patients from 12 years old until their 16th birthday. Occasionally if the Children's Hospital is busy, we may be required to look after younger patients and we look after older patients if they are still under a paediatric consultant.

Please contact the placement as soon as possible.

The ward telephone number is 01865 234054 if you have any questions regarding an upcoming placement. Please avoid ringing between the hours of 07:00-09:00 and 19:00-21:00 as the nurses will be busy during handover. Alternatively, one of the student coordinators should contact you via email.

Information about the placement

Melanie's Ward is located on Level 0 of the Children's Hospital. On Melanie's Ward we take emergency admissions from A&E, hospital transfers and elective admissions for planned procedures. We cover all specialities enabling students to learn a great range of skills.

Below are some of the teams we commonly see on Melanie's Ward.

Medical: gastroenterology, neurology, respiratory, oncology, endocrine, cardiac, diabetes.

Surgical: trauma, orthopaedics, spinal, maxillofacial/dental, gynaecology, ENT, neurosurgery, craniofacial, gastro, urology

Mental Health: self-harm, overdose, eating disorders, conversion disorder.

Suggested spoke placements

Whilst Melanie's Ward offers a varied experience, working in other areas or visiting them is a good learning opportunity too. For example, you could escort patients to various departments for investigations such as: X-ray, Ultrasound, EEG, ECG, Endoscopy, CT, MRI, Theatres. You may also be able to arrange to visit or spend a shift/day in other departments or with other specialists such as: A&E, the Highfield Unit, OPD, Theatres, Recovery, Physios, OTs, Dietitians, Hospital School, Play Specialists, Clinical Nurse Specialists.

Typical shift patterns, days department is open

We generally work long days (07:30-20:00) and nights (19:30-08:00), with 3-4 nurses on day shifts plus a care support worker, and 3-4 nurses on nights. Some staff work short shifts, Earlys (07:30-15:15) and Lates (12:15-20:00). Melanie's ward is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Interdisciplinary learning

Melanie's Ward acts as a placement area for many different students such as nurses, physios, OT's, Pharmacists, doctors and play specialists.

Useful reading for the placement

Visit [Young Minds](#) for a basic overview of some of the mental health patients that we have on Melanie's Ward and different ways to help support them.