

Robin's Ward – CHOX Level 1

Welcome to the neurosciences and specialist surgery ward.

The ward caters for all babies and children up to the age of 12 requiring care under the neurology, neurosurgical, craniofacial, ENT, Specialist Plastic Surgery e.g., Cleft palate repair and ophthalmic teams. We have fourteen beds which are divided into three bays (inc. one observation bay) and three cubicles. Cubicle one is a video telemetry room. A more in-depth list of the common conditions and interventions seen on the ward are available in the student pack which will be emailed out to you prior to your start date.

Ward contact details: 01865 231254

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. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask a member of the team.

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 does include 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 can keep an accurate record of your hours worked.

Key learning opportunities during the placement

- Seizure management
- Medicines management
- Care of complex post-op patients
- Fluid balance
- Feeding regimes
- Wound care and management
- Caring for children with complex needs
- Undertaking neurological observations and the importance/reasons behind this
- Enteral feeding
- SALT/OT assessments
- Care of a neuro-rehab patient
- Assessing and planning care
- Teamwork and multi-disciplinary working
- Wound drains and associated cares
- Safeguarding
- Pain management

There are many opportunities in and around the ward 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 MRI and CT scans
- Shadowing the ward co-ordinator
- Attending pre-assessment clinic and a pre-admission preparation session
- Working with clinical nurse specialists such as neurosurgery specialist
- Working in TDA (theatre direct admissions)
- Attending clinics (craniofacial, spina bifida etc.)
- Wound care
- Shadowing outreach
- Removal of drains and lines (wound, craniofacial, ICP, femoral etc.)
- Look after a patient with an EVD
- Look after spina bifida patient (intermittent catheterisation/wound care)
- Neurosurgery M&M
- Work with neurosurgery specialist
- Attending a discharge planning meeting/MDT
- Any study sessions available on the ward that may be relevant
- Student school

Useful reading for the placement

[Head Smart](#)

[Current classification of seizure types:](#)

[Children's craniofacial documentary and reading:](#)

[Craniofacial patient leaflets](#)