

Patient information

'Your Shared Care Unit' for oncology patients

Welcome to you and your family from all the staff on Rainbow Ward

We are a general children's ward looking after children from birth to 16 years. There are two separate areas of the ward, a Children's Assessment Unit and the Rainbow Ward inpatient area with 15 beds. You will always be under the care of the Rainbow Ward inpatient unit during your stay with us.

Coming to Rainbow Ward

On arrival to the ward, you will be allocated one of our en-suite bedrooms. There are always facilities available for a parent / carer to stay with you at any time. Rainbow Ward has no set visiting hours so visitors can come at any time.

During admission, a nurse will look after you and your plan of care will be overseen by the consultant paediatrician on call for the ward.

Please remember to bring clothes (including night wear), toiletries, nappies, baby formula etc as required by yourself and your child.

Access to Rainbow Ward

Access is via two secure doors which you will need to 'buzz' when entering and leaving the ward.

Safety information

Do not leave valuables / money unattended; wherever possible leave valuables at home.

Mark any of your belongings with your name.

Play and education

We have an indoor and outdoor play area and school room, which can also be used as a chill out area for teenagers outside school hours. The playroom is fully equipped with a variety of toys, games, arts and crafts etc.

Games consoles, books and DVD's are also available and activities can be taken to your room.

Our hospital play specialist is available to all patients on the ward between 9.00am and 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. Please check with a member of the nursing staff before going to the playroom, school room or teenage zone in case of any infection risk.

Meal times

Breakfast	8.00am (cereal and toast served from the ward by ward staff)
Lunch	12.00 midday
Supper	5.00pm

Restaurants

Time Out	open from 7.30am — 8.00pm
Courtyard Café	open from 8.00am — 8.00pm

If you are admitted to the ward just after a mealtime we have sandwiches available on the ward and if it is lunchtime it may be possible to order a late meal from the canteen or you can be given a token to go to the canteen and chose a meal for them.

We have a parent's room with fridge, freezer and microwave so please feel free to bring food for you and use these facilities. Labels for food are in the drawer in the parent's room.

Medication

You should bring all your regular medication with you on admission. The nurses will then look after these throughout your stay. Chemotherapy drugs should be stored in the locker which is provided in your room. Chemotherapy drugs should be administered by yourself as per schedule unless advised otherwise. The locker must be kept locked at all times for health and safety reasons.

Who will you meet on the Rainbow Ward?

Doctors

There are a number of different doctors on the Rainbow ward. Your named consultant is Dr Piccinelli she has a special interest in oncology care. You will sometimes see her on the unit when you are an inpatient, but mainly for chemotherapy and follow up care as an outpatient.

During your time on the ward, your care will be overseen by a paediatric consultant. The care of patients on the ward rotates weekly, handing over care to a different consultant every Friday. You will usually only see the consultant on the morning ward round but there is always a doctor available 24 hours a day should you require one.

Occasionally the number of people on a ward round may be considerable. If you feel there are too many and you are not comfortable with this, please ask your nurse to limit the number entering your room.

If you need to see Dr Piccinelli during your stay, please ask the nurse looking after you to see if this can be arranged

Nurses

- Matron (black uniform with red trim) – oversees the running of all children's services as a whole.
- Ward Manager (navy uniform) - oversees the running of the ward
- Children's Advanced Nurse Practitioner (navy uniform with pink trim) - undertakes patient assessment and care planning

- Sisters (royal blue uniform) - in charge of the ward and oversees patient care
- Staff Nurses (light blue uniform) - provides patient care.
- Nursery Nurses (pink uniform) - supports the nurses in giving patient care.
- Nursing Assistants (grey uniform) - supports the nurses in giving patient care.

All of the nurses are happy to help should you have any queries; however should you have anything specific that they cannot answer, the Oncology Care Link Nurse for the Rainbow Unit, Alison Garters, Jo Rackham and Stacey Lambourne, should be able to assist. If this is not possible, we can consult with your team at Addenbrooke's to answer any queries for you.

Other professionals

You may also see other professionals on the ward such as dieticians, physiotherapists, community nurses, pharmacists radiographers etc, or doctors from other specialities that may be involved with your care.

When would you be seen on Rainbow Ward instead of Addenbrooke's Hospital?

If you become unwell at home, Rainbow ward or your community children's nurse would usually be your first point of contact for advice and review. Care provided on the ward would include:

- Management of infectious problems (most commonly febrile neutropenia)
- Transfusion of a blood product
- Management of central access devices (Hickman line or Portacath)

If it is felt your condition needs further investigation or management you may be transferred to Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Open access

During your treatment you will have permanent open access to Rainbow Ward. This service is available for general health advice over the telephone, whereby you may be advised to attend the ward to be seen by a medical professional. The open access is also used as a self-referral option should you have a temperature or are unwell and need to be admitted for treatment. Telephone us on **01284 713315** and you will be advised to come straight to the ward.

We hope this leaflet has helped you understand what to expect from your shared care hospital. If you have any questions regarding this leaflet, or your care in general, please do not hesitate to ask any of the staff on the ward.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo)
<https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>



© West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust