

Play staff – babies/infants

Piam Brown unit has both a play specialist and a play leader.

The role of the play staff is to:

- Provide play activities, encouraging normal development and offering distraction while your child is in hospital
- Prepare your child for tests, investigations and aspects of treatment, using different types of play
- Answer any of your child's questions about tests, investigations or treatment. This can also include support for their brothers and sisters to help them to understand the diagnosis, treatment and what is happening to their sibling
- Provide a record and a plan of ongoing play and preparation. This can also be used by the play staff in your local hospital
- Offer guidance to help you support your child with their treatment through play activities that you can continue at home.

Outings and events

It is important to continue to do things together as a family and trips and outings can be a great distraction for everyone.

Piam Brown ward offers a selection of trips throughout the year, free of charge to families. Priority is usually given to the families of children on active treatment. In order to receive information about outings you need to obtain and complete a consent form. This form is included in the **BLUE** section – please return completed forms to the events co-ordinator.

Trip information and sign-up sheets are displayed within the unit. If you are not due on the ward, but are interested in what might be available you can contact the play staff by phone on 023 8120 4365.

Play staff – children/teenagers

Piam Brown unit has both a play specialist and a play leader.

The role of the play staff is to:

- Help to prepare you for tests, investigations and treatment and support you through these procedures if needed
- Provide age-appropriate activities during your stay in hospital, recognising that the needs of teenagers differ from those of younger children. Play staff aim to find out what you like and enjoy so that they can better support you when in hospital
- Offer support to brothers and sisters to help them to understand your diagnosis, treatment and what is happening to you
- Play staff can be contacted by phone on 023 8120 4365

On the ward

For over 10 year olds, we have a teenagers' room available outside school hours. There is a computer in the room that has internet access. Anyone under the age of 13 must be supervised by a parent or staff member when using the internet.

Parents are also welcome to use the computer when not in use by a teenager.

Activities

There are a number of events organised for teenagers and young people (aged 11+) throughout the year. These outings are great fun and an opportunity to meet up with other teenagers from the ward.

In order to receive information about outings you need to obtain and complete a consent form. This form is included in the **BLUE** section – please return completed forms to the events co-ordinator.

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