



Welcome to Leopard Ward: information for families

Leopard Ward at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) is the ward for children and young people needing respiratory (breathing) support, such as tracheostomies, nasopharyngeal airways, chest drains and ventilation. The ward is also for children and young people with a range of respiratory conditions, such as cystic fibrosis, bronchomalacia and tracheal stenosis. Children and young people up to the age of 18 years stay on Leopard Ward.

The ward is on level 2 (ground floor) of the Premier Inn Clinical Building, part of the Mittal Children's Medical Centre. For security reasons, the doors to Leopard Ward are kept locked.

Please ring the bell and when asked, state who you are and the name of your child. We will do our best to answer the bell as quickly as possible but may be delayed if we are busy with another child.

- Ward reception – 020 7829 7853 or 020 7829 8813

Key members of the team

- Nurse in charge – This will change for every shift and will be displayed clearly
- Ward Sisters – Gemma Houlihan and Lisa White
- Matron for Respiratory – Anne MacNiven

About Leopard Ward

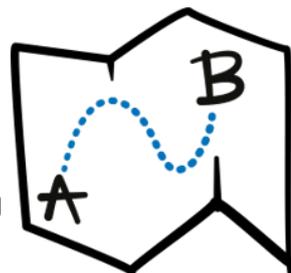
There are 14 beds on Leopard Ward – 10 beds are in single cubicles with en suite bathrooms and space for one parent to stay. Information about the facilities within each cubicle is available on the

bedside television system under 'local information'.

The other four beds on Leopard Ward are high dependency care beds, arranged in a shared bay with bathroom facilities. These beds are for children and young people needing close monitoring and nursing care, perhaps due to their condition or following an operation. We have protected 'quiet time' in this bay between 1pm and 3pm each day when parents should be the only visitors.

Unfortunately parents cannot sleep in the high dependency bay overnight – we will do our best to arrange somewhere for you to stay elsewhere in the hospital or local area. Only two visitors can visit each child in the high dependency bay at any one time – we will ask other visitors to wait in the parents' room.

As the high dependency bay is a shared clinical space, you must keep the area around your child's bed clear at all times so staff can get to your child quickly if needed. There is a cupboard unit by each bed to store your child's belongings tidily – please do not bring any other belongings into the high dependency bay. Please do not bring food



and drink into the high dependency bay, other than drinks for yourself in a covered container.

Ward rounds

The aim of ward rounds is to discuss each child's progress over the previous day and make plans for the next 24 hours or so. Every morning, the ward doctor or advanced nurse practitioner (ANP) will visit each child and then the consultants have their ward round twice a week – on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings.

In between consultant rounds, the team will keep the consultant in charge of your care up to date. If you would like to speak to the consultant outside of rounds, please ask your bedside nurse to arrange this but be aware they will not be able to come straightaway if they are seeing another family.

If your child is in a single cubicle, you are welcome to stay during the round. If your child is in the high dependency bay, we will ask you to move to the parents' room while other patients are discussed – your nurse will collect you so you can be there just when your child is seen.

Facilities on the ward

Parents' room – This has comfortable seats, a television and computer so you can take a break from the ward and keep in touch with friends and family. You can take visitors into the parents' room if your child is having a rest but children are not allowed in the parents' room so should use the ward play room.

Food – Meals are not provided for parents, but you can buy food and drink from the Lagoon Restaurant. Mothers who are breastfeeding (and also parents on a low income) can ask for vouchers to cover the cost of some meals. You can also bring in your own snacks and drinks to store in the parents' kitchen but please label everything with your child's name.

Play room – Our play workers and volunteers can provide toys, games and crafts for your child at the bedside. Our play rooms are currently closed due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic but the play team is still available for your child.

Breastfeeding – There is an expressing room on the ward – a pump and all other equipment needed for expressing is provided.

Wi-Fi – This is available free of charge on the ward so please ask our receptionist for details.

For more information about facilities for children, young people and families in the hospital, please visit the Facilities A to Z page on our website.

Visiting

- Parents can visit their child at any time but only one parent can stay overnight on the ward. During the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, brothers, sisters and other family members and friends shouldn't visit.
- Please do not visit if you have a cold, cough or an upset stomach or think you have been in contact with anyone who is ill – wait until you have not had any symptoms for 48 hours before you visit.
- All visitors should wash their hands thoroughly before entering the ward and use the hand sanitiser gel provided at each ward door.

Tell us what you think

If you have any questions or concerns or want to tell us what went well, please talk to your bedside nurse, the nurse in charge for that shift or Ward Sister. You can also talk to the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (Pals) in the main reception area.

Please fill in a Friends and Family Test card to tell us about your stay – these are available at the ward entrance with a display of what changes we have made in response to feedback received previously. You can also fill in an online form at www.gosh.nhs.uk/your-opinion-matters.

