



Ward IC

Cardiac Unit/Neonatal Unit

Information for parents and carers

Welcome to Ward 1C

Ward 1C has 32 beds and is divided into two medical specialties. 20 beds are occupied by infants and children with Cardiac conditions and 12 beds are occupied by Neonates requiring surgery. Both teams work together with the same aims and standards. Our children range in age from birth to 18 years, each with their own specific needs and challenges. We encourage parents and carers to be actively involved in the decisions and daily cares of their child.

Ward Layout

The ward is divided into four coloured zones. The Neonatal unit is found in the yellow zone at the far end of the ward and the Cardiac unit is found in the remaining blue, green and orange zones. Patients may move from one zone to another during their stay. Rooms in the Green, blue, yellow zones are side rooms with en-suite facilities.

Visiting and Access

Parents and siblings can visit at any time. Other visitors can visit between the hours of 2.00 pm -7.00pm. Children (0-16yrs) who are not siblings, who wish to visit, should gain the permission of the nurse in charge before they arrive. All visitors must be accompanied by a parent and a maximum of three people are allowed around a bed at any one time.

Parents and visitors can enter the ward by using the intercom and stating the name of the child they are visiting. Please be patient as staff are often busy and are not always able to admit visitors immediately.

Ward Rounds

Consultant led ward rounds start each day from 8.00am in the Neonatal unit and from 9.15am in the Cardiac unit. This is an excellent time for parents to discuss their child's progress and plan of care with the doctors and ward staff.

Other teams of Doctors, Specialist nurses, Dieticians, Physios, Midwives etc will review the patients throughout the day as required. Please discuss any concerns or requests with your allocated nurse.

Accommodation

Facilities are available for one parent to sleep at their child's bedside, if they wish to do so.

Rooms are available for families who are not local to the hospital at Ronald McDonald House. This is a charity independent of Alder Hey. Nursing staff are happy to request rooms for families but the decision to allocate rooms remains solely with the staff at Ronald McDonald House.

If families wish to request a room in Ronald McDonald House they should advise staff when their child is admitted.

Food and Drink

Parents are welcome to bring food and drink onto the ward. All hot drinks must be in a cup which has a lid. Parents and visitors are not allowed in the ward kitchen. A small parents' kitchen with a fridge is available next to the play room in the yellow zone. Parents are requested to keep the areas tidy and to wash their dishes after use.

Restaurant

Hot food is served in the Atrium restaurant at:

- 7.30am - 10.30am
- 11.45am - 2.30pm
- 3.45pm - 7.00pm

Privacy, dignity and safety

Blinds are fitted on the doors of each cubicle to ensure privacy for tasks such as toileting and washing. At all other times these blinds should remain open.

Play Specialist and Play Room

A play room is situated at the far end of the ward (yellow zone) and patients and siblings are welcome to use it providing they are supervised. Crafts and games are provided for the patients during the week by our Play Specialist, Lorna. Parents can request for the play specialist input to support anxious children through procedures.

To avoid the spreading of infection children who have tested positive for a virus/infection are not to visit the play room.

Toys

All toys should be kept tidy and stored off the floor. To limit the spread of infection please do not share toys with other patients on the ward.

Valuables

All valuables that are brought onto the ward by patients, their families and visitors are the responsibility of the owner.

Infection prevention

Keeping children free from infection is of utmost importance on 1C and we value your cooperation in achieving this.

Washing and gelling hands is paramount in preventing Infection in hospital.

In order to achieve excellence, please adhere to the following....

- Wash or Gel your hands:
 - on entering the ward and before leaving.
 - On entering and exiting the Yellow Zone.
 - Before and after attending to your child's care e.g. toileting, nappy changing, changing bed linen, feeding, washing.

A member of staff will discuss with you the Ayliffe Technique of hand washing and the appropriate use of hand gel.

- Wear protective gowns and gloves when asked to do so.
- Keep your bed space tidy and free from clutter.
- Do not enter the cubicle or bed space of another patient - even if the family have given you permission to do so.
- Inform staff if your child has been in contact with any infectious diseases e.g. chicken pox, flu, or measles, within the last 14 days.
- Do not visit the ward if you are unwell. Please inform staff and stay away from the ward until you have had no symptoms for 48hrs.

Further information

If you require further information please speak to your allocated nurse or the shift co-ordinator who will be happy to assist you.

Contact Numbers

Main Hospital telephone number: 0151 228 4811

IC Ward Zone Extension numbers:

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| ○ Orange Zone (Day Case) | ext. 4303 |
| ○ Green Zone (Lower Dependency) | ext. 4155 |
| ○ Blue Zone (Higher Dependency) | ext. 2740 |
| ○ Yellow Zone (Neonatal) | ext. 2378 |

This leaflet only gives general information. You must always discuss the individual treatment of your child with the appropriate member of staff. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about your child's treatment.

This information can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.

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