

Contact details

Play Team

01202 665511 ext: 8822

For further general health-related information, please ask the relevant department for an Information Prescription or contact:

The Health Information Centre
Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Longfleet Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2JB
Telephone: 01202 448003

www.poole.nhs.uk

We can supply this information in other formats, in larger print, on audiotape, or have it translated for you. Please call the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01202 448499, text 07758 272495 or email pals@poole.nhs.uk for advice.

If you wish to make any comments on this leaflet, please contact the Patient Information Team confidentially: phone 01202 448003, write to the Health Information Centre (address above), or email patient.information@poole.nhs.uk.

Author: Caroline Fawcett

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Ward sister/head of department: Acting Matron Karen Fernley

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Leaflet title: Play in Hospital

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Child Health Patient information

Play in Hospital

Information for parents and children



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How can play specialists help your child?

- Preparing children and young people for medical procedures
- Helping children cope with pain
- Using play to help distract and calm children during procedures
- Helping children regain skills lost through illness or hospitalisation
- Supporting families through a family- centred approach to care
- Contributing to clinical assessments through documentation and observations
- Advising parents/carers/staff on play for sick and injured children
(NAHPS.org.uk)

How to refer your child to a play specialist

Play specialist support can help if your child is anxious about medical related procedures or investigations, like blood tests or having a scan.

Referrals can be made for play specialist input through your child's consultant, nurse, or other health professional i.e. dietician, physiotherapist.

Play and recreational areas

Recreational area	Age range	Location	Times
Playroom	Babies to age 11 years	Bearwood ward	9am – 9pm
Teenage room	12 years upwards	Bearwood ward	9am – 9pm
Sensory room	All ages	Acrewood ward	9am – 9pm

There are a range of toys and recreational activities available in the play areas or to be taken to bedsides when patients are unable to leave their rooms.

Please note: during term time school age children attend the school room or are provided with bedside educational activities.

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Playroom use

For your child's safety and enjoyment, we ask that you please:

- **Supervise your child.** Please ask play staff or volunteers to supervise your child if you are unable to stay with them.
- **No food or drink.** For health & safety reasons, no food or drink to be consumed in the playroom. Exceptions to this are made at the discretion of staff.
- **Tidy away toys** after your child has played with them. **Please place toys that need washing in the box by playroom sink.**
- Use **child appropriate language.**
- **Use mobile phones with consideration** to other playroom users.
- **The playroom is a treatment free area.** Some routine procedures may be done but only with your child's and other playroom users' consent.
- Take **shoes off when on matted baby floor play area.**

Volunteer support

Hospital volunteers are sometimes available to supervise or provide activities for your child. Please ask your nurse or a play specialist if you would like volunteer support.

Donations

Please speak to a play specialist to make arrangements if donating toys to the playroom.

For infection control and health & safety reasons we are not able to accept any toys made of fabric, or without a € safety mark.