

Welcome to Paediatric High Dependency Unit

Caroline Thorpe Ward

Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio CD, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please contact the PALS desk on 01271 314090 or at ndht.pals@nhs.net.

What is the Paediatric High Dependency Unit?

The Paediatric High Dependency Unit (PHDU) is located in Caroline Thorpe ward, the children's ward at North Devon District Hospital. The PHDU cares for all children who require one to one care from a nurse but which is not intensive care. Your child will be admitted to the unit if they need closer observation and monitoring.

Treatment

Some investigations may need to be carried out on your child to help us give them the appropriate care. These may include taking some blood, carrying out an x-ray. Everything will be explained to both you and your child. You can stay with your child while these are being undertaken. However, you are welcome to wait in another area of the ward if you find this too difficult. While in the unit your child will be monitored using various pieces of equipment enabling us to continually observe their progress.

Visiting

Visiting hours are the same as on Caroline Thorpe ward, however we would appreciate if the number of visitors at any time is kept to 2 per patient. Siblings can visit and we will do our best to explain what is happening to make it less daunting for them.

Due to COVID-19, we have restrictions on visiting. Please speak to HDU nurse or nurse in charge for current visiting policy.

Play

Although your child will probably not be able to leave PHDU, we can provide toys and activities to keep them amused when they feel up to it. Toys, photographs and other familiar objects are an important part of your child's recovery and may be brought in. However, please ensure these are easily identifiable and don't bring too many in as we have limited space.

Staying overnight

We are unable to offer you a bed in PHDU due to limited space and the need for continuous observation and care of your child. However, you are able to stay with them at all times and we can offer you a bed to use elsewhere on the ward if you wish. We can also offer a recliner chair next to your child.

Being discharged

Your child will be discharged from the PHDU when they no longer need continuous close monitoring. They will probably be transferred onto Caroline Thorpe ward until they are well enough to be discharged from hospital. In certain situations if your child does need more intensive care, then they may be transferred to our intensive care unit or to specialised hospitals.

Further information

If you would like more information about Paediatric High Dependency Unit, please contact us via hospital switchboard: 01271 322577.

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or email ndht.pals@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple.

Have your say

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

'Care Opinion' comments forms are on all wards or online at www.careopinion.org.uk.

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