

Maternity

Formula feeding your baby - In hospital

The University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust promote breastfeeding as the healthiest choice of feeding method for you and your baby. As a hospital we wish to support both breast and formula feeding mums. If you have made an informed decision to formula feed, we encourage you to give your baby their first feed whilst remaining in skin to skin following birth as this helps to start building a close and loving relationship. Holding your baby in skin to skin for at least an hour or until after their first feed also helps them adapt to life outside the womb.

Please note that as of August 1st 2019 the University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust maternity department will no longer be decanting formula milk from bottles into the smaller sterile bottles previously supplied by new mothers who choose not to breastfeed. The rationale for this change is in line with manufacturer's instructions.

The hospital will not provide you with formula.

So what do I need to bring with me?

However you choose to feed your baby you will need some breast pads and a comfortable well-fitted non-wired bra.

ALL parents who choose to formula feed will need to bring 'First Milk Starter Packs' into hospital with them. These come in boxes of 6x70ml bottles with teats. Ready – made formula comes in different sizes so please bear in mind that it is the starter pack which is needed. Larger ready-to-feed bottles are not recommended as we do not have the facility to store formula. Once the bottle is opened it will need to be disposed of after one hour. It may be necessary to bring in several starter packs dependent upon your possible length of stay.



