

Patient Information

Children's Services

Wound Care - Parent/Carer information

This leaflet contains advice and information about how to care for a wound after your child leaves hospital.

Nutrition

Your child may eat and drink as normal.

Mobility

It is always advisable for your child to rest for 24 hours after operation. However, depending on where the wound is your child may need to rest for longer depending on healing time. The nurse will advise you before discharge.

Bathing

Your child's wound must remain dry for 48 hours. After 48 hours, your child may soak the dressing off in the bath. The wound must be patted completely dry after bathing / washing to prevent it getting infected.

Return to school/activity

Your child usually needs to stay off school for at least 24 hours after the operation but may need a little longer depending on where the wound is. The ward nurse will advise you before discharge.



Wound care

It's normal for the area around your child's wound to look a bit bruised and slightly red during the healing process. However, if you notice any of the following:

- Increased redness around the wound
- Redness spreading away from the wound
- Swelling
- Hot to touch
- Discharge or oozing from the wound

You should contact your GP for advice, as these could be signs of infection.

Pain relief

Your child might need regular paracetamol and/or ibuprofen for the first 24 hours. The ward nurses will give you advise on this before discharge. If your child is experiencing a lot of pain and medication doesn't seem to help contact Children's Emergency Department (CED) on 024 7696 6934.

Stitches

Sometimes stitches are dissolvable and sometimes they will need to be taken out when the wound is healed.

Your child's stitches are _____ and so do / do not need removing.

Follow-up appointment

If your child needs a follow up appointment in the Outpatients department this will be sent to your home address. Or you may be asked to see your own GP or practice nurse for a wound check. You will be informed as to which option applies to you before you leave the ward.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please contact 024 7696 6850 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

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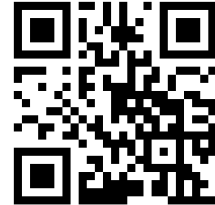
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Document History

Department:	Children's Services
Contact:	26850
Updated:	May 2024
Review:	May 2026
Version:	6
Reference:	HIC/LFT/1701/13