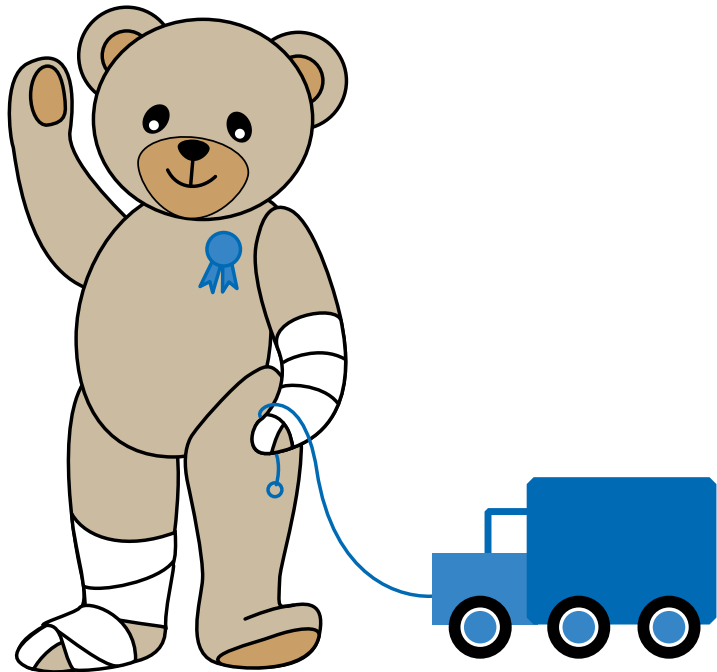


Paediatric and Teenage Oncology Shared Care Unit

Hascombe Ward



Patient information leaflet

**For children and teenagers (aged 0-19 years) with
cancer and their families**

What is a Paediatric and Teenage Oncology Shared Care Unit (POSCU/TOSCU)?

Children and teenagers with cancer need to have their care planned and coordinated by a specialist cancer centre (sometimes called a principal treatment centre or PTC) such as The Royal Marsden, Great Ormond Street or University College Hospitals. However, not all your/your child's care needs to be undertaken at the PTC. The POSCU/TOSCU at the Royal Surrey County Hospital provides local care for children and teenagers with cancer and their families during and following their treatment at The Royal Marsden, Great Ormond Street and University College London (UCL) Hospitals.

Where is the POSCU and TOSCU?

The POSCU and TOSCU is located on Hascombe Children's Ward. We have 3 dedicated en-suite cubicles for children with cancer and their families and 3 for teenagers with cancer.

What does the POSCU/TOSCU do?

We work closely with The Royal Marsden, Great Ormond Street and University College London Hospitals.

We provide some of the care, treatment and support that you/your child and your family need. This includes:

- administration of some of your/your child's chemotherapy,
- treatment of febrile neutropenia and
- blood and platelet transfusions.

We keep in close contact with The Royal Marsden, Great Ormond Street and UCLH by telephone, letter, email and fax. We also liaise with the Children's Community Nursing Teams.

Throughout your/your child's treatment and for 6 months after treatment has finished you will have open access for your child to Hascombe Ward. For more information please see the Open Access for your child to Hascombe Ward leaflet.

Who will be involved in my/my child's care at the POSCU/ TOSCU?

Consultant Paediatrician – Dr Ryalls

Dr Ryalls is the Lead Consultant for Paediatric Oncology (children's cancer). Dr Ryalls is responsible for the care of all children and teenagers with cancer at the Royal Surrey. Dr Ryalls will be your/your child's named Paediatric Consultant.

Speciality Doctor – Dr Oliver

Dr Oliver works with Dr Ryalls in providing care for children and teenagers with cancer. Dr Oliver will be responsible for the day to day care of your child along with the paediatric team.

Macmillan Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Team – Donna Townsend and Helen Cookson

Donna and Helen will be your/your child's key worker and a point of contact for support and advice about your/your child's care and treatment and can help with any questions or concerns you may have. They can be contacted via Hascombe Children's ward or a message can be left on **01483 571122** extension **2596 /2624** or via the mobile on **07500 793217**. Alternatively you can email the CNS team on **rsc-tr.POSCU@nhs.net**

Hascombe Children's Ward Nursing Team

The nursing team will look after you/your child and family whilst on the ward and provide you with treatment and support.

Hascombe Children's Ward Medical Team

You/your child will be seen on a daily basis by the consultant of the week and the on-call medical team. On completion of the ward round the team will update your/your child's PTC.

Pharmacist – Anniela Iqbal

The pharmacists advise on all medication for children and teenagers, and in particular the prescribing of chemotherapy and other medicines.

Physiotherapist – Helen Troughton and Rebecca Foster

Helen and Rebecca will support you/your child in hospital with exercise and physiotherapy. They can refer you/your child to the community physiotherapy service if this needs to continue at home.

Dietitian – Debbie Evans

Debbie is available for support and advice when you/your child are struggling with eating by giving advice and organising prescribable products if needed.

Play Specialist – Alan Ford

Alan works on the ward Monday to Friday to help entertain you/your child. We have a play room on the ward however, if you/your child is neutropenic the play specialist will visit you/your child in your/their room.

Community Children's Nursing Team (CCN Team)

The CCN team will provide care, information and support for you/your child and family at home. They will liaise with the PTC and POSCU/TOSCU.

When should I contact the POSCU/TOSCU?

- If you are at all worried about your/your child's health relating to their cancer
- If you/your child has a temperature fitting the following criteria:
Temperature of 38.0°C or greater on one occasion
- If you/your child looks/feels unwell even without a temperature
- If you have any questions about your/your child's treatment given at the Royal Surrey County Hospital
- If you feel that you need any support for you/your child or for you and your family

How can I contact the POSCU/ TOSCU?

You can contact Hascombe Children's Ward at any time on:

01483 464071

You can contact the CNS Team (Monday to Friday 8am–4pm) on **07500793217** or if non urgent please email **rsc-tr.POSCU@nhs.net**

How do the POSCU/TOSCU team coordinate my care/the care of my child?

If you/your child are admitted to Hascombe Children's Ward you/they will be seen every day on the ward round by the paediatric team. The paediatric team will discuss your/your child's care with the team at The Royal Marsden, Great Ormond Street or UCLH at the end of the ward Round and liaise with the Children's Community Nursing Team.

Every 2 weeks the POSCU/TOSCU team hold a multidisciplinary team (MDT) meeting. At this meeting all the children and teenagers who are being treated within the POSCU/TOSCU are discussed. This is to review treatment schedules and discuss any problems relating to your/their treatments, psychosocial and family issues. The MDT has an administrator who takes minutes and inputs patient's details into a secure database which is used for reference at subsequent meetings.

What facilities are available on the ward when I am/we are admitted?

A bed is available for a parent to stay with you/your child. Please feel free to bring in any personal items from home that will make you and your child feel more comfortable during your/their admission.

All of our oncology rooms have TV's with DVD players.

You/your child can choose your meal from the children's meal trolley or you can request food from the adult menu. We are only able to provide breakfast and drinks for parents/carers.

A fridge and a microwave are available in the oncology and ward kitchen. Please ask a member of staff for the code to the oncology kitchen. Please label food with your/your child's name and the date.

There is a coffee shop and Marks and Spencers food shop in the main hospital entrance (Level B) and the canteen is located on level A.

The ward has a parents' room just outside the main doors of the ward. If you or a member of your family would like to use this room please check availability with member of the nursing team.

A weekly ticket for oncology patients is available from the parking office located in the front entrance of the hospital.

Tesco supermarket is only a short walk from the hospital and is open 24 hours a day.

What other services are available?

The Fountain Centre

The Fountain Centre provides information, support, counselling and a wide range of complementary therapies to children, teenagers and their families during and after your/their treatment. Your/your child's keyworker can give you more information.

Psychological support

Specialist psychological and psychiatric support is provided through the Principal Treatment Centres. A specialist Counsellor is available at Royal Surrey County Hospital for all children/teenagers affected by cancer. This service is also available to siblings. Please ask the CNS team for more information or a referral to the service.

Spiritual/cultural support

The chapel is located on level B and the chaplaincy team are available if needed. Please ask a member of nursing staff to contact them for you.

Thermometers

We can loan to you/your parent a thermometer for the duration of your/your child's treatment. Please ask one of the clinical nurse specialists if you would like to borrow one.

Holiday Letters

If you are going on holiday in the UK the CNS team, with notice, can arrange open access for you/your child at a local hospital.

Beads of Courage

Beads of Courage enables you/your child to track your/their treatment journey using beads. Beads are available through the CNS team or the PTC.

End of Treatment Bell

Some children/teenagers like to celebrate the end of their treatment by ringing the end of treatment bell. Please speak to the CNS team for more information.

[Where can I find information on my child's cancer?](#)

The Royal Marsden, Great Ormond Street or UCL Hospitals will provide you with information about your/your child's specific cancer, how it is treated and who will be treating you/them. We have a number of information leaflets available on the ward. If you require any further information please ask a member of the nursing team.

Support organisations

There are a number of national organisations that can provide help, advice and information to parents; some of these are listed below:

Macmillan Cancer Support

- Telephone: 0800 808 00 00
- Website: www.macmillan.org.uk

Teenage Cancer Trust (TCT)

- Telephone: 020 7612 0370
- Website: www.teenagecancertrust.org

Teens Unite

- Telephone: 01992 440091
- Website: www.teensunitefightingcancer.org

Contact magazine

- Telephone: 0116 249 4460
- Provides magazines for families of children and teenagers with cancer
- Website: www.cclg.org.uk

CLIC Sargent for Children with Cancer

- Telephone: 0300 330 0803
- Support children and young people with cancer and their families. Provides counselling and advice from sergeant social workers, respite care, family breaks, adventure holidays and financial help.
- Website: www.clicsargent.org.uk

Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group

- Telephone: 0116 249 4460
- Provide resources to help families affected by cancer in children including children and teenagers. Translation available in Punjabi, Bengali and Gujarati.
- Website: www.cclg.org.uk

The Brain Tumour Charity

- Telephone: 0808 800 0004
- Provide support and information for anyone affected by any type of brain tumour. They also run support groups and family days.
- Website: www.thebraintumourcharity.org

Sebastian's Action Trust

- Telephone: 01344 622500
- Provide respite holidays for children with life threatening illnesses and their families. They also provide practical and sibling support for families.
- Website: www.sebastiansactiontrust.co.uk

Momentum

- Telephone: 020 8974 5931
- Provide support and advice for families of children undergoing treatment for cancer. They also offer respite breaks.
- Website: www.moment-um.org

Other useful telephone numbers

Royal Surrey County Hospital

Telephone: 01483 571122

Royal Marsden NHS Trust

Telephone: 0208 642 6011

Great Ormond Street

Telephone: 0207 405 9200

University College London Hospital

Telephone: 020 3456 7890

Contact details

Hascombe Ward

Telephone: 01483 464071

PALS and Advocacy contact details

Contact details of independent advocacy services can be provided by our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) who are located on the right hand side as you enter the main reception area. PALS are also your first point of contact for health related issues, questions or concerns surrounding RSCH patient services.

Telephone: 01483 402757

Email: rsc-tr.pals@nhs.net

Opening hours: 9.00am–3.00pm, Monday to Friday

If you would like information documents in large print, on tape or in another language or form please contact PALS.

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