Distraction

Using a variety of techniques, the play team is able to support anxious patients during clinical procedures. We aim to reduce their fear by using distraction and coping strategies.



Post-procedural play

Post-procedural sessions allow patients time to play and talk about their hospital experience. It provides the opportunity for misconceptions to be corrected, and patients to be reassured.



Play centre timetable

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	9.30am to 12 midday	1.30pm to 3.30pm	6.30pm to 8.30pm
	General play session	General play session	Radio Lollipop
Tuesday	9.30am to 12 midday	1.30pm to 3.30pm	6.30pm to 8.30pm
	General play session	General play session	Radio Lollipop
Wednesday	9.30am to 12 midday	1.30pm to 3.30pm	6.30pm to 8.30pm
	General play session	General play session	Radio Lollipop
Thursday	9.30am to 12 midday	1.30pm to 3.30pm	6.30pm to 8.30pm
	General play session	General play session	Radio Lollipop
Friday	9.30am to 12 midday	1.30pm to 3.30pm	6.30pm to 7.30pm
	General play session	General play session	Scout group
Saturday		2pm to 4pm	
		Radio Lollipop	

Timetable subject to occasional change

Hospital switchboard: 0117 923 0000 Minicom: 0117 934 9869 www www.uhbristol.nhs.uk For an interpreter or signer please contact the telephone number on your appointment letter. AΑ For this leaflet in large print, audio or PDF format, please call the patient information service: @ 0117 342 3728 / 3725

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Patient information service Bristol Royal Hospital for Children

Play services



Respecting everyone Embracing change Recognising success Working together Our hospitals.



The play department aims to provide opportunities for play and recreation for all children and young people according to their age and ability, and to meet their social, emotional, developmental and cultural needs. We provide activities and support for children, young people and their families throughout the hospital.



The play team consists of qualified health play specialists, play assistants and a dedicated group of volunteers.

We organise a successful arts programme, which provides musicians, guitar lessons, craft sessions, drama, visiting artists and storytellers.

Other activities include:

- PAT dogs (pets as therapy)
- professional children's entertainers
- @Bristol interactive science sessions
- Scout groups
- Radio Lollipop



We have play/activity rooms or waiting areas on all wards, the outpatient department, and in the emergency department. There is a large play centre with an outdoor area on level 5, which is available to all patients and their siblings.

The adolescent unit includes three social areas that are well equipped with computer games, Wi-Fi access, air hockey, table football, a jukebox, and a range of activities and crafts specifically designed for this age group.



Therapeutic play for children and young people

Pre-admission programmes

Specialised play sessions at preadmission clinics prepare children and young people for a hospital admission, giving them the opportunity to identify and address any fears they may have.

Individual sessions can also be arranged for those who are particularly anxious about their admission. Please contact the play department to request this service.



Therapeutic play preparation for hospital procedures

Using specially designed materials and resources, qualified staff prepare patients before going to theatre or undergoing procedures such as scans, X rays and blood tests. This helps children and young people to cope and become more confident. If you feel this would be beneficial, please contact your play specialist or nurse.