Paediatric Clinical Access

**Introduction**

The Paediatric Unit consists of a 24 in-patient beds and 2 high dependency beds on Sunshine Ward and Dolphin Ward (an ambulatory care unit). This also includes a paediatric oncology shared care unit linked with The Royal Marsden and Great Ormond Street Hospital. The Paediatric Outreach Nursing team works closely with the ward caring for children in the community who are under the care of a Kingston GP.

Our level 2 Neonatal Unit provides support for babies born at our busy Maternity Unit.

The unit is supported by 10 Consultant Paediatricians, clinical nurse specialists for oncology, diabetes, constipation, a team of children’s nurses, play specialists, physiotherapists, dieticians and speech and language therapists.

**Clinics**

The Children’s Outpatient Department runs a number of clinics including:

- **Rapid Access** - This is for urgent referrals where the child needs to be seen within 48-72 hours but does not need urgent attention in A&E. The clinic does not cover surgical or orthopaedic problems.

  **Referral:** a written referral can be faxed on to **020 8934 3566**

- **Paediatric clinic** - All referrals are triaged by a consultant paediatrician and a wide variety of conditions can be treated, such as wheeze, asthma, failure to thrive, enuresis and constipation, feeding and reflux clinic with facility for pH and impedance study, prolonged jaundice, etc.

  Surgical problems should be sent directly to the specialist such as general surgery, ENT, orthopaedic.

  **Referral:** Choose & Book or via paper referral to fax number **0208 934 3566**

- **Speciality Clinics** - We have a number of specialists’ clinics many of which are run in conjunction with our tertiary centre colleagues. These clinics are not on Choose and Book as our consultants will triage the referral first. The clinics include:
  - Paediatric diabetes, including insulin pump service
  - Paediatric haematology
  - Paediatric cardiology
  - Paediatric Oncology
  - Paediatric Endocrinology

- **Paediatric Phlebotomy Service** - We run a phlebotomy service for children between 0-7 years on an appointment system.

  **Referral:** Please give the parents the blood forms and ask them to ring and make an appointment on **0208 934 6403**.
Emergency Referrals
For emergency referrals please contact the on call paediatric registrar via Kingston Hospital switch board 0208 546 7711.

Paediatric Outreach Nursing Team
This children’s community nursing team accepts referrals from GP practices in Kingston and will offer a wide range of nursing care including advice on asthma, eczema, wound care, expedite discharge from hospital, IV drugs, phlebotomy, complex needs and palliative care.

Referral: If you would like to refer into this service, please contact the number below to discuss the referral with the nurse prior to admission on 0208 934 2327

Outcomes
We admit approximately 2,000 children to the in-patient ward per year and see around 1,900 in ambulatory care. Our length of stay averages 1.5 days. Our new to follow up ratio is 1:1 which is in the top 20% nationally.

New Initiatives
From April 2014 the paediatric department would like to commence two new initiatives

- GP referral service- GP will be able to discuss patients with Paediatric registrar and patient will be seen in ambulatory care by Paediatric doctor.
- Multidisciplinary Allergy clinic.