Changes to Services in Surgery

Our colleagues in surgery and anaesthetics would like to hear what you think about bringing your child to a pre-admission clinic before an operation. You may have heard of this in adult hospitals before. At this visit, your child would be examined to make sure everything is all right for the operation and have any tests done that are needed before the operation. This should mean, if you live close enough to travel, that your child does not need to come into hospital until the day of their operation rather than coming in the day before. Also at the visit you and your child can meet some of the staff, visit the ward and ask any questions you might have.

We are hoping that we will be able to offer this to all admissions no matter how far away they live if we can have some hotel/hostel accommodation for them the night before surgery, but discussions are at an early stage. To begin the discussions we’d like to know how you feel about pre-admission. What do you think is this a good or a bad idea, would it help you and your child or would it make things more difficult?

Let us know on-line at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=42023211674 or follow the link from our website or contact Kate for a survey form.

A voice for families

Welcome to the second edition of the Family Newsletter for the New Children’s Hospital. This is designed to help keep you up-to-date with developments and to let you know about the opportunities for you to add your voice to the discussions on planning and design. With your help we can deliver a hospital that meets the vision our patients have set out for us.

“We want a new children’s hospital that is safe, makes us feel better and where staff like working. It should be accessible, where you can be together with others your own age, be the best in the world and be a hospital that everyone is proud of.”

Stories Inside

• Thank you for your help
• Families have their say on the design of the new buildings
• The Youth and Family Panels get underway
• Changes to surgery - tell us what you think

Want to Know More?

If you would like to learn more about the opportunities to get involved in the New Children’s Hospital then we would like to hear from you.

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To keep up to date with the developments at the New Children’s Hospital visit the website at www.nhsforg.scot.uk/childrenshospital
We held a party just before Christmas to say a very big 'thank you' to all of the many families, children and young people who helped to shape the community engagement approach to the New Children's Hospital.

Everyone was entertained by the jugglers, balloon man, magicians and Radio Lollipop. There was face painting for the little ones and henna tattoos for the teenagers but the biggest hit of the night was the chocolate fountain—not exactly healthy eating but great fun!

If you would like a copy of the community engagement framework or the poster produced by the Youth Panel then please contact Kate, see over for contact details.

Both the Youth and the Family Panels have now held their first meetings. These panels will oversee community engagement in the New Children’s Hospital and ensure that families, children and young people get every opportunity to have their say. Both had lots of ideas and have already provided good advice on how we can reach out to more groups in the community. All are agreed that we have a lot of work to do to make sure we get the message out but with the help of the Family and Youth Panels we are sure we can do it.

The minutes of these meetings are available on our website www.nhsggc.org.uk/childrenshospital. If you would like more information about the panels or would like to come along to one of their meetings then please contact Kate. Her contact details are overleaf.

Sir John Arbuthnott, the Chair of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, formally launched the framework for community engagement, helped by members of the Youth Panel. A very big thank you to the Youth Panel, who helped to plan the party, and who came dressed as the doctors of the future!

The Community Engagement Team recently met with children, young people and families to inform the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the New Children’s Hospital. The OBC describes the initial thinking behind the new hospital and defines a framework for its future development. Therefore, it is important that it reflects the views and hopes of those who will use the new hospital. This will help ensure that it offers not just the best clinical treatment possible but also buildings and facilities that support families through difficult times.

We gathered feedback from children, young people and families and young patients also took photographs, highlighting what they thought were the positives and negatives of the current buildings. Through these methods we met with, spoke to and heard from 280 parents/families, nearly 30 young people and 5 younger children. They told us that they were largely happy with the facilities and buildings at Yorkhill but there were some things that could be improved.

Some of the key messages were:
• There should be a mix of single rooms and ward bays
• Better facilities for families on the wards would be welcomed
• Age appropriate areas should be provided for teenagers
• Access to play area or a garden would be welcomed
• Quiet space is needed for families and patients

These findings have been written up in a report called ‘Tell Us What You Think’ and this is now with the planning team that is pulling together the OBC. The architects will be providing feedback to families on how this report has influenced the OBC at a meeting in the committee Room, Yorkhill on the 15th of March at 6.30pm. All are welcome to come along – contact Kate if you would like further details or a copy of the report.

If you would like a copy of the community engagement framework or the poster produced by the Youth Panel then please contact Kate, see over for contact details.