

Preparing for a hospital stay

Questions you may want to ask at the hospital.

For the initial pre-op appointment

- As waiting for your appointment can be stressful, is there anyway that nursing staff can ring/text you to come back to the ward when it is time for you to be seen?
- Could the consultation be done in the playroom over the train track or familiar toys?
- Staff could be advised to use less language with your child rather than more!
- Is there a trained worker for children with special needs in the hospital – could they help on the day of the operation?
- Could a few of his favourite toys be placed in a box or a small suitcase with his collection of toys be brought in for the day of the operation?

On the morning of the operation

- Can parents put on canula cream on at home and does it have to be cold?
- Is there anyway that your child could be first on the operating list to avoid increased anxiety?
- Is there a discreet room that you as a family could use?
- Could all of the procedures be carried out in one place to avoid your child having to go from one area to another?
- Does your child need to be weighed and measured again on the morning of the operation?
- Does your child have to eat or drink before he can be released from hospital? If so can you bring along food you know he is likely to eat?