

Welcome from the Chief Nurse!

**A personal message from Juliette Greenwood, Chief Nurse,
about working at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH)**



I am pleased to give you the opportunity to find out more about being a nurse, and about nursing here at GOSH.

We employ over 1,300 registered nurses who, as a valued part of the multidisciplinary team, have the privilege of working with, supporting and caring for children, young people and their families. We are passionate about always putting the child first and through that achieving our shared aim of delivering world-class care.

Our structure, support and learning opportunities help us work together to ensure that we are all competent, capable and confident. It means we are able to enthusiastically provide quality care that meets the individual, on-going, and frequently complex needs of the children, young people and their families.

We also have a clear vision of what our hospital can and should be. Firstly, we want to be able to treat those children that specifically need, and should have access to, the services that GOSH provides. Secondly, to consistently improve the privacy and comfort for children, young people and their families, and to make their stay with us as stress-free as possible. With this in mind, a major five-part redevelopment of the hospital is underway.



Without a doubt nurses at all levels are also playing key roles in transforming our services to achieve zero harm, no waits and no waste. To support this we offer an impressive range of educational and professional development opportunities to help you develop your knowledge and skills. We also involve our nurses in developing evidence-based care and leading-edge practice. The hospital is committed to becoming a research hospital and for all staff this means that ultimately everyone who wants to be can and will be engaged with research.

In return, sharing your knowledge, expertise and ideas will enhance the care we can offer our children and their families.

Working together we can, and do, make GOSH a great place to be, and in support of this are the four values that we have identified through extensive working in partnership with our children, families and staff. These are applicable for all staff and are:

- Always Welcoming - Always Helpful - Always Expert - Always One Team -

So, whether you are newly qualified, or an experienced nurse, joining our team will offer you an exciting and enjoyable step forward in your career and most importantly you will help us to continue to develop and deliver the best care to children and young people attending GOSH.



About Great Ormond Street Hospital

Always



Welcoming



Helpful



Expert



One Team

One of the world's leading children's hospitals, Great Ormond Street Hospital was founded in 1852 by Dr Charles West, a driven and pioneering physician who believed passionately that the interests of children's healthcare would be best served by the establishment of a hospital dedicated exclusively to the care of children.

The focus of the hospital's work in the early days was on treating the children of the poor in London, where malnutrition and disease were such that infant mortality was almost 50 per cent. Since those early days, outcomes for children have improved immeasurably and the hospital has developed over time to be recognised as one of the leading specialist children's hospitals in the world.

Great Ormond Street Hospital is a tertiary service within the NHS. Most of the children we care for are referred to us from other hospitals throughout the UK because of the highly complex or rare nature of the child's condition. The hospital has the largest range of children's specialties in one institution in the UK.



Working in partnership with the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health, the hospital is the UK's only Specialist Biomedical Research Centre in paediatrics. We are also a member of UCL Partners, one of the UK's Academic Health Science Centres. The number of children treated at the hospital and the complexity of their conditions, provides a unique opportunity to carry out research which can save lives and improve the quality of life for children today and in the future.

The hospital is also at the forefront of paediatric training in the UK. We train more children's nurses than any other hospital and play a leading role in training paediatric doctors. Nursing practice is advancing rapidly with many nurses also supporting clinical research activity and leading specific nursing care research programmes. The quality of training these professionals receive here, at the leading-edge of paediatric healthcare, will benefit them and the children they care for, wherever they work in future.

The child first and always has been the hospital's motto for almost 100 years. That focus and commitment remains the same today. We emphasise looking after the child's overall wellbeing and that of their family, as well as their medical condition. This characterises Great Ormond Street Hospital's approach today and informs our vision for the future.

Staff Accommodation



One of the main concerns for people moving to London for the first time is finding reasonably priced accommodation. The Trust has invested in the development of high-quality accommodation in the area surrounding the hospital.

We can offer very reasonably priced rooms in shared flats, single rooms and, increasingly, housing for couples and families. The accommodation is open to all new nursing starters.

We also have a staff hotel so people who live too far to commute every day can use this as a temporary or ad-hoc basis.

We have a dedicated Accommodation Bureau on site. This bureau is funded by the Special Trustees and is free to all staff. The aim of the service is to assist and support staff who prefer to live independently of the workplace. It has a database of landlords and property to let, and also offers details of forthcoming key worker schemes, such as shared ownership and home-buy loans.

Living and Working in London

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There are lots of benefits to living and working in Central London. Great Ormond Street Hospital is located in Bloomsbury, next to leafy Queen Square. The hospital is surrounded by cafés and shops, for example the Brunswick Centre. The department stores, theatres, bars and clubs of Covent Garden and the whole of the West End are a few minutes away, while the British Museum is on our doorstep.

Visitors often comment on the friendly, welcoming atmosphere of the hospital. There are plenty of opportunities to socialise at the events run by the hospital's Sports and Social Committee, e.g. free London Walks, football and netball teams and other exercise classes.

The Trust offers a series of benefits including staff physiotherapists, massage therapists, counselling services (Carefirst), cycling provision, season ticket loan, on-site nursery and holiday play-scheme. There are also plenty of staff discounts, for example, reduced price tickets to theatres and cinemas. Plenty of local restaurants, shops and businesses also offer discounts to GOSH staff.



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Postgraduate education



GOSH is committed to life-long learning and, in collaboration with London Southbank University (LSBU), provides a range of opportunities for continuing education and career development as a postgraduate student. Staff in both clinical and non-clinical roles have access to a variety of programmes and academic pathways designed to enhance their knowledge, skills and expertise. All our nurses are encouraged and supported to develop advanced clinical and specialist skills along with developing their management and leadership ability.

GOSH nurses are expected to support and be committed to education by undertaking programmes to introduce knowledge, skills and the qualities required to enhance the clinical environment for student and Newly Qualified Nurses.

We offer secondment for Adult NMC Registered Nurses, recruited with transferrable specialist knowledge and skills e.g. Renal and Critical Care, onto the RN Child programme at LSBU to attain Child Branch Registration.

Nurse Education



GOSH recognises and values the vital contribution education makes to the sustained delivery of high quality patient care. All nurses are encouraged and supported to develop and follow a life-long pathway of education throughout their career at GOSH.

Whilst the core values of caring will always remain the same, nurses are required to continually change and adapt practice to meet national and international standards, advances in treatment and multi-professional care, and new and increasingly complex technology. A wide range of nursing education programmes and opportunities are available for nurses at GOSH aimed at maintaining and enhancing the knowledge and skills required to deliver relevant, up-to date, confident and competent healthcare.

The education and continuing development of pre- and post- registered nurses is supported by a team of Practice Educators and Facilitators, who work in partnership with Mentors and Preceptors within the Divisions and across the trust. Together, they provide guidance, clinical supervision, and a range of learning and development opportunities promoting and facilitating excellence in children's nursing care.

The Learning and Development Team offer a comprehensive range of programmes to augment and enhance the education provision for staff at GOSH, via GOLD, the GOSH online campus.

Adult Registered Nurses joining our team at GOSH

Candidate Factsheet

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Registering with the NMC:

Please visit the NMC Website for advice and guidance on joining the register:

<https://www.nmc.org.uk/registration/joining-the-register/>

Applying for a job at GOSH:

Please be sure to commence the process in a timely manner as this could impact your plans and timeframes to gain registered employment.

What's it like working at GOSH?

All our vacancies are advertised on NHS Jobs: <https://www.jobs.nhs.uk/>

You can also view our vacancies on our website: <http://www.gosh.nhs.uk/working-here/current-jobs>

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Adult Registered Nurses joining our team at GOSH

Candidate FAQ

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Can I work at GOSH... it's a Children's Hospital?

Yes, absolutely! As long as you are registered with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) and have a valid PIN. We welcome Adult Registered Nurses and value the skills and experience you can bring.

I trained overseas and I'm Adult Registered, can I work at GOSH?

We appreciate that some countries only offer Adult Registration upon qualifying, so as long as you are registered with the NMC and have a valid PIN, we welcome you and value the skills and experience you can bring. Details of registering with the NMC can be found overleaf on our Candidate Factsheet.

What experience do I need?

We require you to have at least one year's post-registration experience (this does not

have to be paediatric experience) in a clinical setting similar to the one you are interested in working in at GOSH e.g. ITU, Cardiac, Haem/Onc, Neuroscience, Orthopaedics, Renal etc.

What paediatric training will I receive?

As well as the standard Trust induction to GOSH, we offer a robust in-house education package to adult registered nurses, focusing on the paediatric elements of care and family centred approach we adopt.

What are my career development opportunities?

We are committed to developing and supporting all our nursing and care staff along their career pathway, regardless of Band or NMC registration. The career opportunities open to adult registered nurses are the same as any other nurse within GOSH.

www.gosh.nhs.uk/working-here/current-jobs

Penguin Ward

Rheumatology / Dermatology

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Penguin ward specialises in the management of children and young people with Rheumatology and Dermatology disorders and also supports a Physiotherapist-led Rehabilitation Service. Patients are admitted for ambulatory care or short- to long- term stays, for chemotherapy or other treatments including joint injections, skin biopsies, laser surgery and rehabilitative physiotherapy.

Staff are supported by the Clinical Nurse Manager, Nurse Practice Educators, IV and Chemotherapy Team to gain the necessary skills and competencies.

Penguin ward has nine inpatient beds and a designated clinical area for ambulatory care, with a mix of bay beds and individual rooms with or without en-suite facilities for one resident parent.

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Haematology/ Oncology/ BMT/ Rheumatology and Dermatology



GOSH works in partnership with University College London Hospital (UCLH) as a Joint Principal Treatment Centre (PTC) in the delivery of care to children and young people with Cancer.

The Haematology/Oncology Unit staff at GOSH provide care for children with cancer aged 0-12 years of age and children with other non-malignant haematological conditions. The inpatient wards are Elephant, Giraffe and Lion. Safari is the Day Care Ward which is adjacent to the Haematology/ Oncology Outpatients Department. Children with Cancer, who require Bone Marrow Transplant as part of their treatment, are cared for in the BMT Unit on Fox and Robin Wards. The BMT Unit specialises in the care of children undergoing all types of haematopoietic stem cell transplants (HSCT) for haematology, oncology, immunology, rheumatology and metabolic disorders; and also sees patients undergoing Gene Therapy or Thymus Transplant.

We work together with community teams and shared care hospitals in order to provide the highest quality care for children and their families. Our children's cancer services are at the forefront of specialist clinical practice and offer a unique opportunity to develop nursing skills and knowledge in this field. The Unit provides a dynamic environment with opportunities to be involved in research and the care of children undergoing treatments such as high dose therapy with stem cell rescue.

We are committed to your professional development and offer extensive educational opportunities which can be individually structured to include study to degree or masters level. We have a clear development programme closely linked to appropriate competencies, which encourages the progression through an exciting career in paediatric oncology, BMT, Rheumatology and Dermatology nursing.

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Elephant, Giraffe and Lion Wards

Haematology/Oncology



Elephant, Giraffe and Lion Wards sees a case-mix of haematology and oncology patients with varying dependencies. Patients are admitted as day cases for treatment or procedures, or as short, medium or long stay for chemotherapy or other treatments including high dose therapy with stem cell rescue.

Elephant, Giraffe and Lion wards have differing numbers of inpatient beds with en-suite facilities for one resident parent.

Safari Ward

Haematology/Oncology day-care unit

Safari Ward has a day care area and an adjacent outpatient clinic area, for children undergoing treatment for cancer, pre- and post- bone marrow transplant, children with immunological and haematological conditions and those with infectious diseases. Patients attend procedures, reviews and treatment.

Safari ward has 20 beds with a mix of 4-bedded bays and individual rooms.

Fox Ward

BMT



Fox ward has 11 inpatient beds. Each room has a HEPA-filtered environment.

Our speciality is a mixture of BMT patients with varying nursing care dependencies. Patients are admitted to our ward during the initial stages of BMT. Our patients are long-term and require a holistic approach to nursing.

You will have the opportunity to build a close rapport with the patient and family which is extremely rewarding and fulfilling.

Robin Ward

BMT/ Gene Therapy/ Thymus Transplant/ Immunology/
Infectious Diseases

Robin ward comprises of 10 inpatient beds, each room has a HEPA-filtered environment.

Our speciality is patients with conditions including BMT, Gene Therapy, Thymus Transplant, Immunology and Infectious Diseases.

Robin ward is one of only two paediatric immunology units in the UK.

Badger Ward

Respiratory

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Badger ward cares for children with a variety of acute and chronic respiratory conditions, including a variety of congenital anomalies, complex asthma, cystic fibrosis and empyemas/effusions requiring chest drains. Children requiring long-term ventilation via a tracheostomy and those requiring non-invasive ventilation are also nursed on Badger ward.

Due to the nature of the speciality on Badger ward, our patients span in age from new born to adolescent. They require a varied input of nursing care from low to high dependency, and may have both surgical and medical requirements. The diverse nature of the ward lends itself to providing various excellent and exciting development opportunities for nursing staff who want to improve their knowledge and clinical expertise in ventilation and respiratory care in a supportive environment. While some children are cared for on a short-term basis, others often need regular or long-term treatment so staff build a strong rapport with many of their patients and families.

Nurses need to be driven and motivated to ensure our patients and their families receive the highest possible levels of care. Badger ward has a close-knit, hardworking and supportive multidisciplinary team, making it an enjoyable and rewarding environment to work in.

Badger has designated areas for children with cystic fibrosis and children being admitted for complex sleep studies. We can also accommodate children needing closer monitoring in our high dependency area.

Walrus Ward

CardioRespiratory same-day assessment / admission unit

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Walrus ward is a same-day assessment and admissions unit for children with a wide range of heart and respiratory problems who need investigations and treatment. Children also come to Walrus ward for pre-assessment clinics before heart surgery or follow-up after heart surgery. Conditions seen on Walrus ward include congenital heart disease and pulmonary hypertension, as well as patients having heart and lung transplants or tracheal surgery. Investigations and procedures include cardiac catheterisation, MRI scan, electrocardiogram, echocardiogram, CT scan, bronchoscopy and other heart procedures that need sedation or a general anaesthetic.

The ward also has a lung function unit, where staff perform physiological measurements on children's breathing to determine how strong their lungs are and how they are affected by disease. This service is offered to the rest of the hospital, including oncology, rheumatology, the bone marrow transplant service and heart and lung transplant service.

All of this offers nursing staff a unique opportunity to gain insight into other clinical specialities, as well as mixing science with patient interaction.

Staff on Walrus ward have a particular role in making the child and their families feel comfortable at a very difficult and anxious time, as well as preparing them for whatever clinical pathway the child will follow. The team also uses a variety of age-appropriate techniques such as distraction and play therapy to help patients feel at ease.

Bear Ward

Cardiology



Bear ward offers specialist inpatient care for patients with congenital and acquired heart disease. Some children stay here after surgery and others come for assessment and non-surgical management.

Bear ward offers a wide range of experiences and learning opportunities including bridge to transplant, heart transplant, tracheal services and pulmonary hypertension. Working on Bear ward puts you at the cutting edge of paediatric cardiac medicine. As well as conducting over 500 heart and lung transplants since the programme began, our expert team have pioneered the non-surgical replacement of pulmonary heart valves and play a leading role in developing alternatives to surgery for other heart conditions.

Bear ward requires people who like working as part of a large multidisciplinary team. Nursing staff will have the opportunity to get to know patients ranging from newborns to adolescents and their families.

Nurses need to develop core skills in paediatric cardiac care. We offer unrivalled opportunities for staff training and development from our excellent in-house Practice Education team and through our close links with a range of education providers.

Bear ward offers a child-friendly environment featuring sixteen en-suite single bedrooms and eight high dependency beds for children who need closer monitoring.

Miffy Ward (Transitional Care Unit)

Long-term Ventilation



The Miffy Transitional Care Unit cares for long-term patients on ventilation and other mechanical support. Conditions treated include chronic lung disease and complex respiratory conditions, and children who have had life-changing episodes and complex neuromuscular disorders.

The children on Miffy often have long lengths of stay in hospital. The Unit is supported by a large multi-professional team who aim to support each child's development. The ward arranges outings to parks and libraries for the children and their families.

The nursing team on Miffy play a significant role in building relationships with families under stressful circumstances, creating a 'home from home' environment. Our team also educate families in long-term ventilation, explaining the process clearly, alleviate any concerns, preparing patients for discharge to the children's own home. The Unit's small but busy nursing team are passionate about delivering world-class care, putting the child first at all times. The unit nurses are committed to helping patients achieve their full potential medically, developmentally and emotionally. Our nurses are good team players with excellent communication skills and a collaborative approach.

Nurses receive ongoing training and education in the care of the long-term tracheostomy and ventilated children, and will have the opportunity to be involved in developing evidence-based care and leading-edge practice.

Paediatric Intensive Care (PICU)

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Our Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) is a 15-bedded unit and approximately 1,200 patients are admitted each year. They are mainly admitted from the North Thames area, but our specialist departments also support the UK and abroad.

We are also one of two London centres for children requiring neurosurgical intensive care in London. Consequently, almost all children and infants admitted to PICU receive supportive ventilation. Our PICU has state-of-the-art equipment and facilities to allow the development of new treatments and management strategies for critically ill children. We have a variety of ventilators to provide individualised ventilator strategies appropriate to the care of each child. We also promote a full range of nurse-led renal support therapies.

To ensure the child and family's needs are met, we use the partnership philosophy of nursing care to encourage parents and significant others to participate in care as they feel able. We have a large support network, which includes a team of family liaison nurses, a play specialist, access to interpreters, social workers and psychological support.

PICU can be a challenging environment to work in, as a team, we follow the Trust values and work incredibly hard for the children and families in our care. Our supportive environment offers reflective practice, the preceptorship programme, psychosocial meetings and regular social events, as well as close co-operation and teamwork.

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Critical Care Services (CICU/NICU/PICU)

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The critical care services at GOSH are passionate about achieving our shared aim of delivering world class care. Our service comprises of PICU, NICU and CICU. The Trust has the largest ICU service across the country.

Our philosophy is to provide a holistic approach to the child, young person and family during these challenging times.

We offer an internal rotation across the ICU which is accessible from the start of your career at GOSH.

Alternatively, nurses can develop their expertise in one of the three specialist areas. There are unique differences between each of the units. However, all three are equally dynamic and fast paced ward environments. Nurses will become experts in their field and have the opportunity to broaden their horizons for example by undertaking research.

Working in a highly pressurised environment is incredibly rewarding and a fantastic opportunity to be at the forefront of caring for acutely unwell children and young people from across the UK and Europe.

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Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU) Flamingo



Our Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU), Flamingo, is a world leader centre for care of children with complex heart disease requiring specialist surgery. It is predominantly a surgical unit for children under 18 years of age who need intensive care for conditions involving the heart, lungs or airways.

The Unit offers a wide range of experiences and learning opportunities following post-op surgery including heart and lung transplantation, tracheal reconstruction, thoracic surgery, pulmonary hypertension and mechanical heart, lung and renal assist.

Treatments include medications that cannot be safely given on a general ward, and use of machines that can take over the work of the lungs, heart and kidneys. The Unit is responsible for the care of children who need artificial heart and lung support technology such as extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) and Berlin Heart.

As with the other intensive care units, the team is very conscious of the stress parents and relatives of children on CICU are under, and there is a large support network to help. This includes psycho-social support, play and interpreters.

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

The neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) aims to provide excellent care to critically ill neonates in an environment which is sensitive to the needs of the baby and the family. We are one of the lead centres for complex neonatal surgery in North Thames.

NICU has 8 intensive care cots, and treats approximately 500 patients per year. There is no obstetric facility within GOSH so this is not a traditional neonatal unit. NICU primarily admits a wide range of surgical conditions, e.g. necrotising enterocolitis, bowel obstruction, oesophageal atresia, tracheoesophageal fistulae and other congenital anomalies. Neonates with complex medical and surgical problems from other specialities are also admitted or offered support, including laryngeal clefts, spina bifida, and persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn (PPHN) who may need nitric oxide and high frequency oscillation, to try to avoid the use of extracorporeal life support (ECLS / ECMO).

NICU is part of the North Thames Central Neonatal Network. In this collaboration we aim to provide the best service possible for neonates by sharing best practice and service opportunities with our colleagues in UCLH, Whittington, Royal Free, Chase Farm and Barnet. We have regular meetings with colleagues from UCLH neonatal unit to discuss shared patients and best practice. Our staff on NICU also have a strong support network for families and there are regular midwife clinics, family liaison nurses, psychological support and breastfeeding specialists available.



Caterpillar Ward

Outpatient / Ambulatory

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Caterpillar is an outpatient and ambulatory department treating a wide range of conditions predominantly outpatient care for the haematology, immunology, oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant Patients .

Nurses working here have the opportunity to care for children with a variety of conditions and develop core nursing skills including the administration of chemotherapy, care of central lines, minor procedures and education of families. Nurse led clinics mean that in addition to working as part of a wide multi-disciplinary team nurses can develop autonomous skills. This is supported by a strong core clinical team, in addition to the divisions Clinical Nurse Specialists and education team.

As many of our patients are from different countries, Caterpillar acts as a shared care facility for patients who require follow up and on-going treatment. This enables the development of strong communication skills and close links with the lead consultants.

Caterpillar has 9 consulting rooms, including a cardiac/ echo facility and isolation areas. Caterpillar is a day service and out-of-hours shared care for haematology/ oncology/ Bone Marrow Transplant patients is facilitated elsewhere within the trust.

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Hedgehog Ward

Mixed Speciality

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Hedgehog Ward cares for patients from mixed specialities; predominantly lower dependency patients from surgical pathways with children also coming for clinical review and assessment. The case and patient mix seen on Hedgehog Ward is varied, offering you experience in a breadth of specialities and cultures.

Hedgehog Ward is the International and Private Patient Division's newest ward, having opened in September. It has ten beds and there is a practice educator and a clinical support nurse available to support all new starters.

Opportunities for skill development and acquisition are varied on Hedgehog Ward and staff are encouraged and supported to gain experience and skills of caring for a variety of patients with a diverse range of clinical needs. The education team and Clinical Nurse Specialists work hard to share their knowledge and skills in a supportive environment.

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Bumblebee Ward

Mixed Speciality



Bumblebee ward is unique in that it offers care to children from over 20 different specialities and provides specialist input for both surgical and medical care. Specialities that are seen on Bumblebee ward include neurology, neurosurgery, plastics, orthopaedics, gastroenterology, ENT and respiratory. Patients on Bumblebee ward stay for a varying length of time and this can range from day case procedures to long stay admissions.

The diverse range of patients means that there is plenty of opportunity for development of skills and knowledge and this is supported by our education and senior nursing teams. The vast range of clinical experience that can be developed on Bumblebee ward ensures the delivery of an excellent standard of clinical care and provides a whole host of learning opportunities. The ward team have a wide range of skills to share and their supportive approach enables new members of the team to develop their confidence and expertise.

Bumblebee ward is a 21-bedded inpatient ward located in the Octav Botnar Wing and predominantly children are nursed in individual cubicles.

'We care for you to care for them'

Butterfly Ward

Haematology / Oncology



Butterfly ward cares for patients with predominantly malignant and non-malignant haematology/ oncology, immunology conditions and those requiring Bone Marrow Transplant however patients within other specialities can also be cared for here.

Opportunities for skill development and acquisition are varied on Butterfly ward and staff are encouraged and supported to gain experience in the care of haematology and oncology patients, competency in the administration of chemotherapy and the development of skills of caring for a variety of patients with a diverse range of clinical needs. The education team and Clinical Nurse Specialists work hard to share their knowledge and skills in a supportive environment. Butterfly ward has a close working relationship with Caterpillar Outpatients Department.

Butterfly Ward has 18 individual cubicles, 4 of which are dedicated Bone Marrow Transplant rooms with a plan to convert a further 4 beds into specialist isolation rooms. There is also an additional 4 bedded day case area within Butterfly ward, where children may receive day case chemotherapy, immunoglobulin's, diagnostic procedures or minor surgery.

'We care for you to care for them'

Kingfisher Ward

Medical Investigation Unit

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Kingfisher ward is a busy, fast paced nurse led investigations unit open Monday to Friday and Saturday for day cases only.

We undertake investigations and procedures for diagnosis or on-going management of children with Gastro, Endocrine, and Metabolic conditions. Examples of these conditions are Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia; Diabetes Insipidus; and Hypothyroidism. Patients attending the ward vary in age from a few days to eighteen years. Whilst Kingfisher offers only short stay admissions, many of the families attend regularly on a routine elective basis for ongoing management of their conditions.

The ward also runs a rapid assessment service for patients known to the consultant and Clinical Nurse Specialist teams with changes or deterioration of their chronic condition.

Full training and support is provided to nurses working on the unit to gain skills in cannulation and venepuncture; taking skin biopsies; running complex endocrine; and metabolic stimulation tests and giving IV infusions. The ward is well supported by both practice educators and the various CNS teams, allowing the nurses to become knowledgeable about both the conditions and the investigations required.

Kingfisher ward has 16 beds (10 are overnight and 6 day cases).

We offer both inpatient and ambulatory care services. In addition to our inpatients on average 8-10 patients attend regularly for simple treatments and investigations.

Eagle Ward

Renal Unit

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Eagle ward is the largest paediatric renal unit in Europe; it has 25 beds of which 15 are acute beds and 10 haemodialysis beds. We carry out approximately 35 renal transplants a year and have dedicated high dependency beds.

We offer cutting edge, new and innovative treatments including ground breaking ABO incompatible transplantation. We also offer 3 different dialysis modalities within a technically challenging and exciting nurse led service. Patients range from a few days old to 18 years and we have both long and short stays.

All in all, this speciality offers great opportunities to develop specialist, high dependency and transferrable skills within a dynamic and supportive environment. We also offer both a renal foundation course and a degree and masters module.

Gastro Investigation Unit



The Gastro investigation unit is a small unit with a large throughput of patients. Our nurses attain a high level of technical and analytical skills performing and assisting with the various medical tests and using equipment required for gastroenterology procedures. Nurses on this unit act as a resource offering specialist advice on gastroenterology investigation's and conditions throughout the hospital, nationally and internationally.

Rainforest Gastro Ward

Gastroenterology

Rainforest Gastro is an 8-bedded ward, we care for long- and short- term patients with chronic gastroenterology conditions from newborn to adolescence. Including patients with neuromuscular gastrointestinal disorders; autoimmune gastrointestinal disorders; congenital gastrointestinal disorders; gastrointestinal failure; and food allergy.

Many of the patients on this ward can have long stays in hospital while we try to find diagnoses and/or stabilise their condition. Using state-of-the-art technology, for example colonic combined impedance-manometer and esophageal pH-impedance. The Motility service is focused on providing diagnosis, treatment and long-term follow-up for the most complex paediatric patients who are often referred by other paediatric gastroenterologists or paediatric consultants.

Staff working with us gain experience in caring for patients having these procedures, plus endoscopies, and gastric emptying studies, as well as caring for patients with central lines, stomas, and enteral and parenteral nutrition. We also care for patients recovering from BMT, and those who have had subtotal/total colectomy and/or stoma formations.

Rainforest Endo / Met Ward

Endocrinology / Metabolic Medicine



Rainforest Endo/Met Ward specialises in Endocrinology and Metabolic Medicine conditions.

Endocrinology conditions include Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia; Diabetes Insipidus; Cushings Disease; Hypothyroidism; and Neonatal Diabetes. The unit is also a specialist centre for children with Congenital Hyperinsulinism.

Metabolic Medicine conditions include Organic Acidaemias; MSUD; Urea Cycle Disorders; Lysosomal Storage; and mitochondrial disorders.

Because of the nature of these conditions, the patients on this ward can have long stays in hospital and often need several different tests or procedures. We care for ages newborn to adolescence, with the majority of patients being under the age of 2 years.

Rainforest Endo/Met has 8 beds. Dependency can be very high as we admit acute referrals who require diagnosis and stabilisation, and also emergency admissions of acute decompensation/ metabolic acidosis. There are opportunities for staff to perform frequent blood glucose monitoring and management, monitoring of blood gases, and administration of complex IV fluids and medications. Though this is a medical ward, we manage surgical procedures such as CVAD and Gastrostomy insertions; and occasionally have major procedures such as Pancreatectomy and Adrenalectomy.



Koala ward provides care for newborns, infants, children and teenagers with complex neurological, craniofacial, neurosurgical, neurovascular conditions. We provide a tertiary service both nationally and internationally for children with disorders of the brain and spine that require medical and surgical management.

Neurological and neurosurgical conditions include: complex epilepsies (other than febrile seizures); movement disorders; demyelinating disorders; spinal cord, nerve and muscle diseases; congenital neurological disorders; spasticity; hydrocephalus; head injuries; surgical treatment of epilepsy; craniofacial abnormalities.

The ward has modern facilities for staff to work in and provides a family focused environment for children and their families; with the aim of providing high quality, evidence based care. Our philosophy of care is family centred, and encompasses multi-disciplinary working in a friendly and supportive environment. There are opportunities for staff to gain experience and skills in high dependency care, such as interpreting blood gases, arterial line care and external ventricular drains.

Koala ward has 24 beds, of which 8 are high dependency and 4 are dedicated to telemetry.

Starfish Ward

Surgical Short stay and Diagnostic Admissions



Starfish ward is a 7-bedded day unit specialising in neurosciences day admissions. We deal with many of the different procedures a few of which include new patient reviews, MRI/CT scans, lumbar punctures, Botox injections, infusions and great occipital nerve injections.

You will experience a wide range of different conditions, many of which are unique to Starfish ward. These include demyelinating disorders, various types of seizures, muscle diseases and movement disorders to name a few. The ward is currently going through transition into an overnight short stay unit, where the ward will also be accommodating surgical, ophthalmology and urology patients.

There are many opportunities where staff can gain experience in Entonox, venepuncture, cannulation and skin biopsy training. We pride ourselves on family centred care whilst working alongside the multi-disciplinary teams in a supportive and friendly environment. Our ward is based in the Southwood building consisting of a small supportive team who provide comfort to our patients and their families with the upmost care.

The Mildred Creak Unit (MCU)

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services



The Mildred Creak unit supports children and young people with severe and often complex mental health difficulties. We have seven inpatient beds and three day patient places.

Young people are admitted to MCU have a range of psychological disorders, for example; eating disorders; mood disorders; somatoform disorders; and other complex relational problems or difficulties which may impact on a young person's ability to function.

We work as a community, made up of young people, families and staff, working together to support recovery. We eat meals, go shopping, and go to the park together to model normal day to day life. Our main philosophy is to provide a therapeutic environment in which young people feel able to be open about their feelings and put their emotions into words. Our package of care, includes; daily therapeutic groups on the ward, family therapy sessions and their own individual psychotherapy and/or psychology sessions. Young people with eating disorders may attend the day programme with the outpatient eating disorders service.

The MCU team are dedicated and passionate, and work closely together in a multi-disciplinary way in the best interest of the young people and their families. We have regular team reflective meetings, all staff receive clinical supervision and have access to a weekly support group to assist us in the work we provide.



700 patients a day visit our Outpatients department. Children and young people are often seen by more than one Consultant or specialist team. There are a variety of different patient pathways that are tailored to the child's needs and cover all the specialties in the hospital. The different styles of clinics include; Transition Clinics for young people; Metabolic Clinics which involve working with the families, cooking with the children to teach and engage them about their dietary treatment. Some patients are "frequent flyers" that we know well, whilst others are reviewed and admitted to the ward for ongoing care.

Children are essentially well, but can quickly become quite ill due to their underlying conditions, so there are potential clinical emergencies within the department.

There are opportunities for staff to learn both clinical and managerial skills, and lead a small team on one of the Outpatients floors. Clinical skills involve blood sampling from Central lines, Hickman lines and implantable ports and venepuncture; assisting and helping with the removal of plasters POP's, sutures and wound dressings; leading and facilitating the ENT clinics and supporting the Doctors with procedures.

Somers Clinical Research Facility



The CRF nursing team consists of Band 6 and 7 nurses who have an interest in research and are able to work both as part of the team and autonomously in order to support a portfolio of research studies. Our team also incorporates numerous speciality research nursing teams including Renal, Novel Therapies, Neuromuscular, Gastro and Critical Care. We also have a successful working relationship with the NHS National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

Our nurses come from a variety of different clinical settings and thrive in being part of a team at the forefront of ground breaking therapies for childhood and rare diseases.

We are on a constant learning curve about clinical research and how it impacts on patient care now and in the future.

Somers Clinical Research Facility (CRF)



The Somers Clinical Research Facility (CRF) is a modern, purpose built unit which provides a high quality, dedicated clinical environment, in which children and young people take part in research programmes safely and effectively, according to robust and ethically approved protocols.

The CRF is a open weekdays and is staffed by a team of children's research nurses and support staff (pharmacist, play specialist, prep-lab team and administrative support).

Our skilled nursing team provide a high standard of holistic, family-centred clinical care to children and their families participating in research studies. Our nurses lead, coordinate and manage a number of research programmes from a variety of different specialities. They are responsible for the recruitment of participants, facilitation of the consent process, administration of the clinical interventions required as part of the study, observing and responding to side effects. They also liaise with drug companies and other study sponsors and ensuring the accurate collection and submission of data, in line with the study protocols and research regulations.

Squirrel Ward

Great Ormond Street
Hospital for Children
NHS Foundation Trust

General, Urology & Neonatal surgery



Squirrel ward is a 22-bedded urology, neonatal and general surgery ward with a four-bed High Dependency unit. Patients are admitted to Squirrel ward as either clerked admissions, transferred from the Neonatal or Paediatric Intensive Care Units, or as emergency referrals. This ensures that there is a constant mix of short-stay and long-term children who require specialist skills and interventions to enable them to recover from their surgery. Many of the children are by nature high dependency patients who require a high level of nursing and medical care.

Squirrel Ward staff are experienced, friendly and strive to provide the highest patient care possible to make the inpatient stay and recovery as fast and smooth as possible. Squirrel ward also offers a wide range of dedicated support for staff. The ward is committed to the education and development of its staff and values the role each individual member of the team plays in the care and support of each child and their family.

www.gosh.nhs.uk/working-here/nursing

Surgery

Great Ormond Street
Hospital for Children
NHS Foundation Trust



Surgery at GOSH covers a wealth of specialties, and with a high turnover of patients, is a fast-paced and exciting place to work.

We recognise that all of our patients are individuals. Staff work closely with the children and families to provide the highest standards of nursing care, delivered by an appropriately trained member of staff with an emphasis on empowering the children and families. We aim to reduce the stress and anxiety of hospital admission by ensuring the child and family are adequately prepared, and that discharge planning is implemented early on.

We also recognise the individuality of our staff who have a wealth of skills and knowledge. This enables us to work as a team to provide high quality care to all children. We place a strong focus on education and personal and professional development, by advancing nursing practice, we ensure that the care provided follows best practice and has an evidence base.

In Surgery we have a vastly diverse workload and work as one large team, ensuring effective professional relationships and support networks for all staff.

www.gosh.nhs.uk/working-here/nursing

Peter Pan Ward

ENT, Cleft lip/palate, Plastics, Dental, Cochlear implant, Maxillofacial



Peter Pan is a 16-bedded ward providing care for children from birth to the age of 16 who require ear, nose and throat, cleft lip and palate, maxillofacial, dental, plastic and cochlear implant surgery. Peter Pan ward provides care to children who are admitted for elective surgery, discharges from the Neonatal and Paediatric Intensive Care Units, and also to children requiring specialist care who are referred from district general hospitals.

Our team provide pre- and post-operative care to children with complex and artificial airways. These children and their families need a wide range of nursing interventions to stabilise their condition and promote their recovery.

Nursing staff on Peter Pan ward provide valuable education to families and carers enabling them to care for the child, and support them in the process of transferring this care into their home environment. The workload is a mixture of both fast-paced high-turnover patients and those with longer-term needs. Working on Peter Pan ward will increase your pre- and post-operative nursing skills, enable you to be competent at looking after artificial airways in non-ventilated children and increase your knowledge of wound management.

Sky Ward

Orthopaedic and Spinal surgery



Sky ward has 18 beds, including a four-bed high dependency unit which provides high level nursing care to children following orthopaedic and spinal surgeries. Sky ward caters for children from birth to the age of 16 and occasionally beyond. Patients have a variety of underlying medical illnesses including many with special needs. Children are encouraged to maintain as much independence as possible during their stay, and therefore all areas of the ward including the playroom, adolescent room and multi-sensory room have been designed to be fully accessible to children with a range of disabilities.

The workload is usually fast-paced and has a high turnover of patients. While specialising in orthopaedics and spinal surgery, the ward accepts patients from the other surgical specialties, patients who are undergoing a variety of general surgical, ear, nose and throat, maxillofacial, urological, ophthalmology and day care procedures.

Sky ward has a dedicated multi-disciplinary team consisting of consultants, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, orthopaedic and spinal nurse specialists, plaster technicians and a play specialist. Every member of our team is vital in ensuring that the children and families have a comfortable hospital stay and an organised discharge.

Puffin Ward

Great Ormond Street
Hospital for Children



NHS Foundation Trust

Same-day admission unit



Families start by attending pre-admission clinic or receiving a pre-admission phone call prior to their surgery date. At the preadmission clinic, patients will be seen and clerked by the relevant Clinical Nurse Specialist and by a member of their surgical team so consent can be given.

Pre-operative investigations such as bloods, X-rays and scans will also be carried out at this time to ensure that all necessary information is ready for the patient's admission for surgery, thereby avoiding delays and cancellations on the day of surgery.

Puffin ward is a same-day admission unit for certain operative and investigations. On the day of the procedure, patients will be admitted either from home or from our patient hotel. They will be taken to theatre from the ward and the parents will then be shown to the allocated postoperative ward, where they can wait until the child's surgery is complete.

Having Puffin ward situated next to theatres, enables a swift, efficient transfer of patients to theatre. It is a fast-paced and rapidly growing service within GOSH.

All team members strive to provide high levels of care and information to children and families undergoing surgery from many disciplines.

www.gosh.nhs.uk/working-here/nursing



Currently, over 18,000 children and young people a year undergo a surgical intervention in our operating theatres; many of whom are complex patients with multiple co-morbidities requiring a multi-disciplinary approach to their care. We have 15 theatres catering for a wealth of specialties. In addition to our elective case load, we facilitate an emergency service and deliver surgery at the bedside where clinically required. We offer a 24 hour, 365 day a year service.

Our highly skilled, multi-disciplinary team in theatre recognise surgery can be a difficult time for families and patients. We respond to individual needs, providing reassurance and are dedicated to providing children and young people and their families and carers with the safest and highest quality care.

Our theatre department is a busy, interesting and exciting place to work. Staff have the opportunity to work in anaesthetics, scrub, recovery or Interventional Radiology. All new staff are given a bespoke orientation programme and a preceptor will be allocated to ensure smooth integration into the department and the team. All staff members are supported by the Theatre Practice Education team to ensure continuing professional and personal development. Staff are encouraged to multi-skill and expand their knowledge and expertise.



The Great Ormond Street Hospital Nursing and HCA Bank supports the Trust by ensuring the provision of high-quality paediatric healthcare workers. Having a staff bank means we can maintain a high level of consistent staffing on the wards and departments, and minimise the reliance on third party agency workers. The management of the GOSH Nursing and HCA Bank is subcontracted to Bank Partners.

Members of staff at the Trust have excellent development opportunities, both through their day-to-day work and their further professional development. These advantages are also available to temporary Bank workers. GOSH also recognises that a staff member is better able to provide a caring compassionate service if they feel respected and know their views are heard. This is why the values they hold when dealing with patients extend to staff and temporary workers in the Nursing and HCA Bank.

As a bank worker, you'll receive more benefits and job security than agency workers. For example, you'll always be given priority over any agency worker looking to fill a shift. In fact, the shift will be given to you even if an agency worker has already filled it. As a bank worker, you also have the flexibility to choose what shifts you want to work- you control your availability and you decide when you want to work. You'll also be paid on a weekly basis, which means you can control your finances better.