

Patient information

Important information about your child's physiotherapy appointment

Please read

Physiotherapy Department

West Suffolk Hospital NHS Trust, Hardwick Lane
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 2QZ
Tel: 01284 713300; www.wsh.nhs.uk

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Paediatric Physiotherapy is based in the main building at the front of the hospital in the therapies department.

At your child's first appointment we require an adult with parental responsibility to attend and the enclosed Consent Form to be completed. If a person with parental responsibility is unable to attend your child's first and/or any future appointments, please complete the Consent Form writing the name of the adult who will be attending - this is you giving us consent for your child to be seen with this adult.

At your child's first appointment there will be some questions about the condition they are being treated for as well as their general health and wellbeing followed by an age-appropriate assessment.

It is useful for your child to wear clothes that they feel comfortable and can move easily in. We do need to assess the body part that your child is coming to see us for. For hips/knees/ankles and lower back assessments shorts are ideal, for arm and spinal assessments (including shoulder and neck) your child can choose to remove their top or wear a sports top/ bra or thin strapped top as they feel comfortable. If your child does not feel comfortable to undress, we will always respect their decision.

We encourage children to talk to us where they can do so and to ask us any questions they may have about physiotherapy or their condition. We aim to address any worries that children or you may have.

We encourage an adult to attend all therapy appointments however if an older teenager wishes to attend subsequent appointments without an adult, they can do this if both the teenager and therapist feel this is appropriate.

Please be aware that car parking on site at the West Suffolk Hospital can be busy, it may be helpful to allow some additional time when visiting the hospital site.

We try to offer after school appointments when requested, however these are very popular and may not always be available. Most new patient appointment slots are during the school day, to allow us to offer a greater number of after school follow up appointment slots.

If you are unable to attend a physiotherapy appointment for any reason, please contact the department on 01284 713300 to rearrange. This allows us to use this time to see other children.

