

Your child's maxfax or ear, nose and throat (ENT) appointment

Information for patients, parents and guardians

Your child has been referred for a maxfax (maxillofacial) or ENT procedure or assessment at Southampton Children's Hospital. This sheet contains information that you may find helpful when preparing for your visit.

Eating and drinking

- The procedure or assessment your child is having requires them to be 'nil by mouth'. This means your child must not eat anything from 2am before their appointment.
- Your child is allowed to drink clear fluids up until 6am on the morning of their appointment. You may wish to wake them up early to have a drink by 6am. This will help ensure they don't get too thirsty while they wait for their slot.

What to expect

- You will be asked to come in at 7.30am. However, because our theatres are dealing with emergency and unplanned procedures as well as the scheduled list, sometimes children may not go down into theatre until late morning or even afternoon. You may like to bring a book or favourite toy to occupy your child should they experience a longer wait.
- If your child is kept waiting for a long period of time we may give them fluids through a drip to keep them hydrated.

Going home

- After surgery your child will rest in a bed on one of the children's wards, where they will be observed for a period of time before being allowed to go home.

Further information

If you would like more information or have any questions about your child's appointment please contact the paediatric assessment unit (PAU) on: **023 8120 4628**.

If you need a translation of this document, an interpreter or a version in large print, Braille or on audiotape, please telephone **023 8120 4688** for help.

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Version 1. Published April 2017. Due for review April 2020. 1529