

What is Hospital at Home?

Children and young people told us that being at home and being able to go to sleep in their own bed was one of the top things that made them feel better when they are poorly. The Hospital at Home service is helping to make that a reality by bringing the hospital to the child's home.

Hospital at Home provides care in a patient's home, potentially avoiding the need for them to come to hospital or helping them to go home sooner if they are in hospital. Avoiding a hospital admission for certain conditions is not only more convenient for the child and their family but it provides additional benefits, such as enabling families to stay together, reducing disruption and impact on siblings and other family members and it can lead to better clinical outcomes for children who are able to recover in comfortable and familiar surroundings.

This model of care supports us to deliver what children and young people have told us matters most to them – being in a physical environment where they feel safe and well looked after.

Hospital at Home care is provided by an experienced healthcare worker for short periods of time (under 72 hours). The Hospital at Home team works with the existing Children's Community Nursing (CCN) team, and has staff specifically trained for the higher level of care to be provided. Referrals can be made for same day response and currently cover conditions such as bronchiolitis, wheeze, croup, diarrhoea, vomiting, fever and neonatal jaundice. Suitability for the service is based on a clinical assessment of need.

The service has received excellent feedback from patients, parents and carers and staff.

*"The service was invaluable, and I am convinced my child recovered much quicker being at home. He was able to be more settled and relaxed. The nurses were amazing reassuring us and providing **outstanding care**. Nothing was too much trouble and the nurse provided lots of useful information and answered my concerns. Her manner with us was so **kind and caring**."*

"Excellent service - gives us confidence in sending children home that we would normally admit for further observation."

"Really good service - Can see parents visibly relax when we tell them they are going to have further support at home."