

SOUTHAMPTON Children's Hospital

University Hospital Southampton 
NHS Foundation Trust

Brief

Contact information:

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Project:

Launch of Southampton children's hospital

Overview:

UHS is creating a 'hospital within a hospital' to bring all children's services under one roof for the first time.

The children's hospital strategy offers a solution to co-locating many services currently dispersed geographically around the hospital site. The provision of a children's hospital with a single point of entry for emergencies, day care, outpatient and all inpatient services will help define our service and raise our profile regionally and nationally. This will contribute to the achievement of our vision to deliver improved patient pathways, patient experience and outcomes, and offer opportunities for new and better ways of working.

Children's services are becoming increasingly distinct from those for adults. There is a growing recognition that in both the "softer" elements of service such as environment, communication and social care and the "harder" application of evidence based medicine children have needs that are quite distinct from adults.

For families, it is important to have the confidence that when they take their child into a hospital they will be looked after in a place that is sympathetic to their status as a minor and different in some small but important ways from an adult service.

The Trust has a great history of delivering world-class healthcare for children on the South coast and beyond. The purpose built hospital will be a worthy home to the specialist, internationally renowned paediatric services provided and will offer the highest level of care to our young people, from toddlers to teenagers.

External stakeholders

We want to promote better understanding of why we are building a stand alone children's hospital and ensure our key stakeholders have the information they need to feel involved in the project.

Objectives

- The overarching vision for the continued improvement of children's services is the development of a defined, clinically integrated Southampton Children's Hospital

within UHS with state of the art facilities to provide world class care into the next decade and beyond

- First class building for excellent clinical services in an environment that supports children, young people and their families through the difficult times of ill health, makes them feel safe and meets all their needs.
- We already have specialist, internationally renowned paediatric services in place but will be bringing them all under one roof within a one point of entry children's hospital
- Developing a hospital where everything from reception, to treatment is tailored to suit the needs of young people
- Developing a world class centre of clinical, research and academic excellence
- We will use the opportunity to review all our care pathways with open minds about delivering things differently
- Seamless service, including links and a wish to work more closely with the community
- Advocacy – we will listen to what children want. There will be a greater voice and more choice for parents and children about how they receive care (e.g. as an adult or child)
- Be recognised nationally as an elite children's hospital with influence on appropriate national committees
- Develop an excellent staff experience
- For our staff – this development is beneficial to the whole Trust freeing up space to expand and improve adult services across the site.

What we will discuss with OSC members

- Raise awareness of project
- Promote better understanding of why we are building a dedicated children's hospital
- Share our planned communication channels
- Ensure we are involving key stakeholders in the project