



Your Child's MRI Scan

Scanning Department Radiology

Great Western Hospital

If you need to cancel or you have queries or concerns
please contact the department on

01793 60 50 47

Opening Hours

**Monday - Friday
9.00am - 4.30pm**



Your Child's MRI Scan

What is an MRI Scan?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a method of obtaining pictures of the tissues and organs within the body. The scanner uses a combination of a powerful magnet, radio-frequency waves and a sophisticated computer. You can now watch a video of what happens by visiting us at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wa9jRLq8>

Why is this Scan needed?

The doctor has requested this scan for your child. It is the easiest way to gain the information needed to diagnose your child's problem.

Are there any risks involved?

The Radiographer will run through a simple safety check with you to make sure your child can be scanned. We will also ask the same safety checks to be sure you can accompany your child in for the scan.

An MRI scan is not suitable for everyone. Before booking, please read the safety information below and ring us if you have a query.

It is important that you ring us if any of the following applies to your child:

- Heart Pacemaker
- Aneurysm clips in their head
- Any metal implants (other than dental work)

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- **Accidents involving metal splinters in their eye, head or body**
- **Surgery within the past 3 months**

**If you have any queries or concerns please ring us
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Is there anything to do before I come?

- The MRI scan can take anything from 15-20 minutes to do, and it involves loud banging noises for the duration of the scan; we will provide hearing protection to minimise the noise.
- The scanner looks like a round circle with a table in the middle. Your child will be asked to lie on the table and we might need to place something over the area we are scanning in order to improve the pictures.
- It is very important to remain still for the scan. You may wish to prepare your child for the scan by looking at videos or images on the internet.

On the day of your scan:

- Arrive at the Scanning department (ground floor of the hospital) with the child's favourite toy. As long as the toy doesn't contain metal it can go into the scanner with your child. If your child has a favourite music CD we can play that throughout the duration of the scan.



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- A Radiographer will go through the check list with you and your child. One parent may be asked to go into the scanner with the child, this parent will need to answer the safety questions about themselves and remove all metal objects such as wallets, watches, keys.
- You may be asked to stay in the room with your child to make sure they are okay. We will give you a buzzer to squeeze if for any reason they don't wish to continue.

After the scan:

- The Radiologist will study the images and report on them.
- The report will be sent directly to your referring doctor.
- You will receive a letter or follow-up appointment to discuss the results, please allow up to one month for this.

This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

Document Control

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