



University Hospital
of South Manchester 
NHS Foundation Trust

Paediatric Observation and Assessment Unit (POAU) Information for parents

**Observation and assessment unit (POAU) Tel:
0161 291 5459**

Wythenshawe Hospital
Southmoor Road
Wythenshawe
M23 9LT



What is a Paediatric Observation and Assessment Unit (POAU)?

- It is short stay unit providing assessment of your child's condition.
- Your child may need some investigations to help us make a decision whether your child can go home or needs to be admitted to the ward.
- Please keep visitors to a minimum. Visiting hours 13.00-20.00

What facilities are available?

- a cot or bed for your child to rest in
- food and drink for your child
- play specialists, plus toys, games and a play area
- a parent's room with facilities to make hot drinks. Unfortunately for safety reasons no hot drinks are allowed in the bays and play area.

When can I take my child home?

- As soon as the doctors and nurses, and you agree that they are well enough.
- Ask about a discounted car parking slip.
- Community nurses can be arranged to go and visit your child at home to check they are getting better.

What do I do if I am worried about my child when I go home?

- You may ring for advice up to **48hours after discharge**.
- Take your child to your GP.
- In an emergency ring 999 or bring your child to the Emergency Department

Will I be contacted about the child's results?

You will be contacted by the doctor with any results that require treatment.