



**Harry has to have a  
scan in hospital.**



**Statement of Values**

**Respect - Caring - Openness -  
Partnership - Teamwork Fairness &  
Equality**

## Guidance Notes

This booklet has been designed by student nurses of previous years to help young children and their parents/guardians prepare for a specific procedure in The National Children's Hospital, AMNCH. Some children can become anxious about attending hospital therefore the booklet aims to help alleviate some anxiety by communicating information about the planned procedure or surgery.

All preparation and support must be appropriate to the child's age, developmental stage and level of understanding. **Therefore the first reading with the child should be carried out by a nurse or play specialist from the children's hospital.** A child may have a specific question about the procedure which is best answered by staff who are knowledgeable about the planned procedure or surgery.

Once the first reading is carried out a parent/guardian can then read the booklet to their child if they consider it to be helpful in preparing their child for hospital.

### **Tips for parents/guardians reading the booklets:**

Read the book first yourself before reading it with your child. Ensure you have a clear understanding of the content before reading it with your child. Ask your nurse to explain anything you are not sure about.

Prepare any questions that your child is likely to ask.

Find a suitable time in a quiet environment to read with your child

Read the booklet slowly and clearly to provide your child time to express concerns or ask questions.

Allow your child to look at the pictures, this will encourage younger children to understand the story being told.

Provide honest answers to help build trust. It is alright not to know all the answers. Perhaps a nurse or doctor can clarify any questions you are unsure about at your next visit/appointment.

Repeated readings are helpful to aid understanding and to store information in your child's memory.

We welcome any feedback on these first editions to:

Children's Nurse Practice Development

AMNCH, Tallaght

Dublin 24

Email: [rachel.howe@amnch.ie](mailto:rachel.howe@amnch.ie)

Harry goes to hospital to have a scan. He meets the nurse who tells him that the scan machine takes special photos of the inside of his body.



The Radiographer shows him the room where the scan machine is. This is the person who will take the X-Ray photos. Harry thinks it looks like a space shuttle.



When Harry lies down on the bed the machine makes a loud noise while the photos are being taken.

The nurse tells Harry that he can wear special headphones and listen to music.

"Hey this is cool!" says Harry



Some children may need medicine before the scan. The nurse tells Harry that he will get some magic medicine. This will make him a little sleepy and when he wakes up his scan will be all done.

Harry meets the radiographer who is going to take the photos with the big scan machine. He tells Harry that his Mammy or Daddy can stay with him all. When the scan is all over Harry goes back to his bed to lie down. Hurray!!!



After some scans you may need to be in a room with no other children for some time. Don't worry there will be lots of toys to play with and DVDs to watch!!



Harry and his parents will come back to the hospital another day for the results when the photos are ready.

Harry and his parents are going home.



Bye, Bye Harry





VISIT [www.thenationalchildrenshospital.ie](http://www.thenationalchildrenshospital.ie) for more information on our fundraising campaigns.

DO IT FOR THE KIDS - Run, walk or jog the Flora Women's Mini Marathon on 7th June 2010 in support of The National Children's Hospital Tallaght. To register please contact 01-4142375 or email [marathon@thenationalchildrenshospital.ie](mailto:marathon@thenationalchildrenshospital.ie)

Have your golf clubs at the ready on June 24th 2010 at Hermitage Golf Club and join us for our Annual Golf Classic.

Email [trek@thenationalchildrenshospital.ie](mailto:trek@thenationalchildrenshospital.ie) to find out more about THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA TREK in October 2010

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Created by Richenda Maher, Post-Graduate Student Nurse, The National Children's Hospital, Tallaght, Dublin 24, with support from Faye Attwood, Play Manager, Siobhán O'Connor, Nursing Practice Development Co-ordinator and Medical Photography and Illustration Department.

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