

Simulation on the Children's Ward (A21)

What is Simulation?

Simulation is a tool for the teaching and training of doctors and nurses. During this, they rehearse (practice) managing unwell children and other emergencies.

You may hear the emergency buzzer and see staff members run to the bedside or room on the ward. A manikin (a life sized but plastic doll-like child) will be in the bed and doctors and nurses will treat them exactly as a real patient, including talking to them, giving them medicine and so on.

It will usually happen on the children's ward or paediatric emergency department at New Cross Hospital on Thursday mornings but may sometimes happen at other times.

The doctors and nurses can then rehearse and practice their skills in managing unwell patients.

What does it mean for my child?

You can reassure your child that the manikin is not a real child and that nobody is coming to any harm. Although everyone may be acting like there is a real emergency, nobody is unwell.

Your child's care will not be affected in any way. It is important for the training of doctors and nurses that they have opportunity to learn in this way - however the simulation session will not run unless there are staff available to participate and it is safe for the patients on the ward for them to do so.

Further information

If you would like to discuss this or have any questions please ask the medical or nursing staff running the session and they will be happy to speak further to you and your child.