



**Ben has to go to hospital to
have grommets in his ears**



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

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Ben meets lots of different people who will help to make him feel better.



The doctor looks into Ben's ears - this does not hurt at all.



Ben meets the nurse who checks his
Temperature
Blood pressure
Oxygen Levels



Ben will have an operation to have grommets fitted. He cannot have anything to eat or drink on the morning of his operation.



Ben understands that the doctor will fix his ears when he is asleep. He will be able to hear much better.

The Doctor gives Freddie a drink of magic milk. This makes Ben fall fast asleep for his operation.

Or

Maybe the Doctor will ask Ben to blow up a special balloon to make him sleepy for the operation.



Ben will have something to eat and drink when he wakes up fully.



Later that same day when Ben feels better he will go home to his family. His new grommets will help him to hear better.



A big thank you to all who helped to make me better!!!



Ben waves bye to the nurses and doctors in the hospital.



VISIT 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

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 to find out more about THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA TREK in October 2010

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