



The Northern Neonatal Network

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Northern Neonatal Network – Parents Information Directory

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| Name of Unit/Hospital Neonatal Intensive care – Royal Victoria Infirmary |
| Full postal address (inc. postcode) Level 4 Leazes Wing Royal Victoria Infirmary (RVI) Richardson Road Newcastle NE1 4LP |
| Where is the Unit situated in the hospital (name of floor/block/wing) and which entrance should visitors use? Leazes wing Level 4 Use entrance on Richardson road opposite park |
| What is your Unit's capacity (number of cots and type)? 34 cots offer intensive, high and low dependency care |
| What grading of staff routinely look after the babies (Nurses/HCAs/ANNPs) and how are they distinguished (colour of uniform etc)? Nursery Nurse Band 4 Nurses Band 5 Sisters band 6 & 7 Health care assistants provide support to above team |
| What is your visiting policy (times, number of visitors allowed, restrictions (family/friends/siblings/other children/age etc)? 3 visitors to cot Parents can visit any time of day with siblings of baby No other children under 16 to the unit Prefer other visitors to attend in visiting hours 2pm – 15.30 & 1800 – 2000 hours |

Do you have secure lockers/storage for visitors and are they token operated?

Yes in parents room

How much does car parking cost for visitors (please list all current rates), are "season tickets" available and what is the cost? Is parking difficult (spaces availability/access for disabled etc)?

There is a multi storey but expensive/ small areas of parking available next to dental hospital
Regional centre always busy for parking

What facilities are available for parents and visitors on your Unit? Please list, e.g. waiting room/area, drinks machines, play area/toys for siblings (supervised/unsupervised?), crèche, library of DVDs/books to lend, leaflet rack etc.

Waiting room / with play area
Drinks machine and TV in waiting area
Leaflets on each area

What breastfeeding and EBM storage facilities are available on your Unit?

There is a specialist nurse in the neonatal unit Monday-Friday to support mothers with expressing & breast feeding and all staff have received training regarding breast feeding.

Mothers can express by their baby or use the expressing rooms when they visit.

There are 2 fridges and 4 large freezers on the unit for storage and there is a designated breast milk fridge in Crawford House (family accommodation).

What parent room facilities are available (number of rooms, criterion for use, proximity to the Unit, common room/kitchen area etc)?

3 rooms available with ensuite facility (no kitchen facility)
Also use Crawford house short walk from the neonatal unit with all facilities

Criteria for flats (families with extremely sick babies and preparation for home)
Crawford house (usually parents with quite a way to travel)

What restaurant/café/coffee shop/WRVS & paper shop facilities are there within your hospital (opening times, proximity to Unit etc)?

All above facilities available on 2 floors below neonatal unit and about 5 minutes walk into the new Leazes Wing

Does your Unit provide any financial assistance towards costs for parents? (travel etc) Please detail including eligibility criterion.

We have a charity called Tiny lives that does assist with parking and travel arrangements (parents need to be on benefits). Ask the nurse in charge for more details of this scheme if your baby is being cared for on Ward 35.

Does your Unit have or links to an active local parent support group - if so, please give details including contacts where available.

Ward 35 at the RVI has an active support initiative for families called the Buddy Group. This allows parents to support each other, having had a similar experience - they are put in contact (or "Buddied") with parents who have had babies at similar gestations or with similar conditions. The Group meets every few weeks and parents can contact each other via e mail, text and face to face whilst on the Unit.

The Buddy Group is co-ordinated by Claire Campbell - Sister on Ward 35, who can be contacted at claire.campbell@nuth.nhs.uk