

Where can I have my child's blood test taken?

This leaflet lists different locations where your child can have a blood test.

Children's Phlebotomy Clinic

- Suitable for:** Aimed at under 5 years with nursing and play specialist support.
- Where:** Children's Clinic, Level 1 South Block, Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.
- When:** Monday mornings ONLY 9am – 12pm.
- Bookings:** Appointments ONLY 0118 322 8142 (no walk-in service).
- Blood forms:** Your paediatrician (doctor) will be able to order the test electronically. If your GP has requested the test you will need to bring a blood form.

Kempton Day Bed Unit

- Suitable for:** Infants under 1 year, children who have been previously difficult to bleed, children who require specialist tests, children with special needs and older children with needle phobia. Paediatric doctor or paediatric nurse support is available.
- Where:** Level 3 Centre Block (next to Lion & Dolphin Wards), Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.
- Bookings:** Appointments ONLY 0118 322 7383 (no walk-in service). Please book a date and time for your child's appointment at least 2 weeks before the test is needed.
- Blood forms:** Your paediatrician will be able to order the test electronically but it is helpful if you also have a paper copy from your doctor all GP request require a paper blood form.

Royal Berkshire Hospital Phlebotomy (Blood tests) Department

- Suitable for:** Children over 5 years or younger children who are confident with blood tests. Ask your paediatrician for some local anaesthetic cream to use before the test if you think your child may need this.
- Where:** Level 2 South Block, Royal Berkshire Hospital, next to Outpatients 2. This can be reached via the South Block Entrance on Addington Road or the main link corridor from the Royal Berkshire Hospital main entrance on Craven Road. Follow the blue-coded signs to Pathology or Blood tests.
- When:** Walk-in Monday to Friday 7.30am-4.15pm.
- Bookings:** Not required.

Blood forms: Your paediatrician will be able to order the test electronically. If your GP has requested the test you will need to bring a blood form.

West Berkshire Community Hospital

Suitable for: School age children or younger children from 2 years who are confident with blood tests. Please ring to check that staff on duty are available to take blood from children and ask your paediatrician for some local anaesthetic cream to use before the test if you think your child may need this.

When: Appointments available Monday to Friday 8am-3pm.

Where: West Berkshire Community Hospital Phlebotomy Department.

Bookings: Appointments needed. Please mention child's age at time of booking.
Tel: 01635 273343 and select option 3 to talk to a receptionist.

Blood forms: Please ask your paediatrician or GP to print a blood request form.

Royal Berkshire Bracknell Healthspace

Suitable for: School age children or younger children from 2 years who are confident with blood tests. Ask your paediatrician for some local anaesthetic cream to use before the test if you think your child may need this.

When: Walk-in Monday to Friday 8am – 4pm.

Where: Eastern Gate, Brants Bridge, Bracknell RG12 9BG.

Bookings: Not required.

Blood forms: Please ask your paediatrician or GP to print a blood request form.

Your GP

Suitable for: Older children or younger children who are confident with blood tests. Please check with your GP to see if your child is old enough to attend.

Where: Your GP practice

Bookings: Required. Please check with your GP reception.

Blood forms: Please ask your paediatrician to print a blood form.

Children needing additional support

Some children find blood tests very difficult and our play specialists can provide some support prior to the blood taking appointment and do some preparatory work with your child. These children would benefit from having their blood tests booked on Kempton Day Bed Unit or the Children's Phlebotomy Clinic until they are more confident. Appointments with the play specialists (with some after school) are available if your paediatrician contacts the Play Specialty Team (Ashley Zdanowicz) on Lion Ward.

Visit the Trust website at www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

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