

Where to get your child's blood test

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

Royal Berkshire Hospital (RBH) – PLEASE NOTE:

- Children aged **under 12** can only have blood tests carried out in the RBH's Children's Clinic or on Kempton Day Bed Unit.
- Children aged **12 and over** can choose between using Phlebotomy, Children's Clinic or Kempton Day Bed Unit.

Phlebotomy (Blood tests)	
Suitable for:	Children 12 years of age & over with no additional needs requiring a blood test.
Where:	Level 2 South Block, RBH, Reading RG1 5AN.
When:	Monday-Friday: 7.30am – 4.30pm. Closed Bank Holidays.
Bookings:	APPOINTMENTS ONLY (no walk-in service) Book online at www.swiftqueue.co.uk/royal_berkshire.php
Blood forms:	Your hospital doctor will be able to order the test electronically. If your GP has requested the test you will need to bring a blood form.
Children's Clinic	
Suitable for:	All children requiring a blood test from over 5 years – 12 years of age with no additional needs .
Where:	Children's Clinic, Level 1 South Block, RBH, Reading RG1 5AN.
When:	Monday mornings ONLY 9.00am – 12.00pm.
Bookings:	APPOINTMENTS ONLY (no walk-in service) Book online at www.swiftqueue.co.uk/royal_berkshire.php
Blood forms:	Your hospital 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:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children from birth onwards – 4 years of age, and children of all ages with additional needs. • Children from 5 years – 12 years of age with no additional needs can use this service if booked online.
Where:	Level 3 Centre Block (opposite Dolphin Ward), RBH, Reading RG1 5AN.
When:	Where possible, please book a date and time for your child's appointment at least 2 weeks before the test is needed.
Bookings:	APPOINTMENTS ONLY (no walk-in service) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From birth – 4 years, or children of all ages who need additional support Tel: 0118 322 7383 • Over 5 years – 12 years of age with no additional needs Book online at www.swiftqueue.co.uk/royal_berkshire.php
Blood forms:	Your hospital doctor will be able to order the test electronically but it is helpful if you also have a paper copy of the form. All GP requests require a paper blood form.

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Children needing additional support (RBH)

Some children find blood tests very difficult. Our play specialists can provide some support prior to the blood taking appointment and do some preparatory work with your child. Appointments with the play specialists are available, please contact the play team via email on paediatric.playteam@royalberkshire.nhs.uk or alternatively please call **0118 322 7519** and ask to speak to a member of the play team.

Community sites

West Berkshire Community Hospital

Suitable for:	All children requiring a blood test from birth onwards , and children of all ages with additional needs .
Where:	West Berkshire Community Hospital Phlebotomy Department, RG18 3AS
When:	Monday-Friday: 8.00am – 3.20pm.
Bookings:	APPOINTMENTS ONLY (no walk-in service) Tel: 01635 273343 and select option 3 to talk to a receptionist. Please mention your child's age at the time of booking. For further information please visit https://www.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/our-services/physical-and-community-healthcare/blood-testing-phlebotomy/
Blood forms:	Please ask your hospital doctor or GP to print a blood request form and bring it with you.

Bracknell Healthspace

Suitable for:	Children 12 years of age & over requiring a blood test.
Where:	Eastern Gate, Brants Bridge, Bracknell RG12 9RT.
When:	Monday-Friday: 8.00am – 3.30pm.
Bookings:	APPOINTMENTS ONLY (no walk-in service) Book online at www.swiftqueue.co.uk/royal_berkshire.php
Blood forms:	Please ask your hospital doctor or GP to print a blood request form and bring it with you.

Important guidance

Ask your GP or hospital doctor for local anaesthetic cream if you think your child will need it. Apply it where the doctor instructs you to 30 minutes before your appointment time and cover the site with cling film. This will ensure the site will be numbed at the right time. We also offer cold spray to numb the area instantly instead of cream.

Further information

For more information visit <https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/our-services/blood-tests/> and https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/media/2xtduomu/my-child-needs-a-blood-test-kempton_sep21.pdf

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

Paediatric Ambulatory Care: July 2022.

Next review due: July 2024

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