



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 Children's Outpatients Clinic or on Kempton Ward Day Bed Unit.
- Children **aged 12 & over** can have bloods taken at the Blood Tests clinic (Phlebotomy).
- Children **of all ages with additional or complex needs** can only have bloods taken at Kempton Ward Day Bed Unit.

Royal Berkshire 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 OP Clinic Blood Tests	
Suitable for:	All children requiring a blood test from 5 – 11 years of age with no additional needs .
Where:	Children's OP Clinic, Level 1 South Block, RBH, Reading RG1 5AN.
When:	Monday mornings ONLY 9.00am – 12.00pm. 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.
Kempton Ward Children's Blood Tests	
Suitable for:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children from 0 – 4 years of age, and children of all ages with additional needs. • Children from 5 – 11 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 0 – 4 years, or children of all ages who need additional support - Tel: 0118 322 7383 • Over 5 – 11 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 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
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 to the area instructed by the doctor 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/services-and-departments/blood-tests> and <https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/services-and-departments/blood-tests/childrens-blood-tests>

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

RBFT Paediatric Ambulatory Care: July 2024.

Next review due: July 2026

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