

# PROPOSED MODEL OF CARE FOR SURGERY

	Std of Care Provided	Safe Staffing Levels	Critical Inter-dependencies (24/7)	Min Trust Activity Volumes
Level 3 Unit	<p>Specialised Surgery in Children</p> <p>Provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Specialised Surgical Care</li> <li>- High acuity non-specialised surgical care</li> <li>- Level 1&amp;2 for local population</li> </ul>	<p>Specialist Paediatric Anaesthesia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On call rota, 24/7</li> </ul> <p>Specialist Consultant Surgeon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On call rota, 24/7</li> </ul> <p>≥2 registered children's nurses in surgical wards &amp; day-case units</p>	<p>Level 2 PCC co-located</p> <p>Specialist Paediatric Consultant Radiologist - on call (24/7)</p> <p>Children's Surgical Network member</p>	Daily elective & emergency lists
Level 2 Unit	<p>Surgery in Children</p> <p>Provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High Acuity surgical care (24/7)</li> <li>- Level 1 care</li> <li>- May provide specialised surgery in children for some specialties</li> </ul>	<p>Consultants Surgeons<sup>1</sup> – on call rota</p> <p>Consultant Anaesthetists<sup>1</sup> - on call rota, available within 30 min - 24/7</p> <p>≥2 registered children's nurses in surgical wards &amp; day-case units</p>	<p>Joint care with named Consultant Paediatrician &amp; paediatric team available for immediate liaison and advice 24/7</p> <p>Level 1 PCC beds co-located</p> <p>Transport service to Level 2 unit – within 2 hours</p> <p>Children's Surgical Network member</p>	Dedicated children's list 1 per week and daily access to emergency theatre

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Level 1 Unit	Day-case Surgery in Children M-F 9am-5pm	Surgeon and anaesthetist with training & competencies in the General Surgery of Childhood on site until day case patients discharged  ≥2 registered children's nurses in surgical wards & day-case unit	Access to Consultant paediatrician or Registrar for liaison and advice  Transport service available to level 2 unit – within 2 hours  Children's Surgical Network member	Dedicated children's list 1 per month
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## Definitions

### Context

There is continued confusion due to the names we use for describing different surgical services for children. This is often due to terms being used which can have multiple different and separate meanings.

### Examples of terms causing confusion

- General Surgery (when related to surgery/surgical services for children)
- Paediatric Surgery (see current NHSE Paediatric Surgery Service Specs)
- Neonatal Surgery
- General Paediatric Surgery
- General Surgery of Childhood

This is further compounded by the confusion caused by the terms “specialist” and “specialised” when describing surgical services.

### Recommendations

That we try and agree a consistent use of terms/names between and across organisations.

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We suggest the following terms are used:

- **Specialised Surgery in Children.** This term encompasses a large and diverse group of separate specialised surgical services in children, as defined in NHS England's Manual for Prescribed Services (the Manual).<sup>1</sup>

This includes the following prescribed services:

Cleft lip and palate services  
Craniofacial service  
Highly specialist pain management services for children  
Specialist dentistry services for children  
Specialist ear, nose and throat services for children  
Specialist gynaecology services for children  
Specialist orthopaedic surgery services for children  
Specialist plastic surgery services for children  
Specialist Paediatric Surgery services  
Specialist Paediatric Urology services  
Surgery for complex obesity in children.

- **Specialist Paediatric Surgery.** One single and specific surgical speciality contained within the wider group of Specialised Surgery in Children, as defined in the Manual<sup>1</sup> (see full list above). This is usually performed by a surgeon who is registered on the GMC Specialist Register under Paediatric Surgery.
- **Specialist Paediatric Urology.** One single and specific surgical speciality contained within the wider group of Specialised Surgery in Children, as defined in the Manual<sup>1</sup> (see full list above). This is usually performed by a surgeon who is registered on the GMC Specialist Register under Paediatric Surgery.

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<sup>1</sup> NHS England, Manual for Prescribed Specialised Services 2016/17. Accessed On: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2016/06/pss-manual-may16.pdf>

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- **General Paediatric Surgery (GPS).** Non-specialised children’s surgery that can be performed by Specialist Paediatric Surgeons or by surgeons who primarily operate on adults but have expertise in paediatric surgery.<sup>2</sup> This is usually performed by a surgeon who is registered on the GMC Specialist Register under either Paediatric Surgery, General Surgery or Urology.
- **Specialist Paediatric Surgeon** – A surgeon who is registered on the GMC Specialist Register under Paediatric Surgery. This surgeon will usually provide both specialised and non-specialised (GPS) surgical services.

Terms that need to be used with care:

General Surgery / General Surgeon– as this sometimes used to refer to “adult” services and sometimes to refer to a subgroup of children’s surgery.

General Surgery of Childhood – in most instances this has been replaced by the term General Paediatric Surgery.

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<sup>2</sup> Royal College of Surgeons of England, Children’s Surgical Forum. Ensuring the provision of general paediatric surgery in the district general hospital. Accessed on <https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/library-and-publications/college-publications/docs/ensuring-the-provision-of-general-paediatric-surgery-in-the-district-general-hospital/>

<sup>1</sup> **With appropriate experience, expertise and competence in the care of children.**