

## Children's hand/finger surgery aftercare information

### Peanut Ward

**Following your child's operation, please take note of the advice given in this leaflet.**

- encourage your child to keep their hand upright and elevated as much as possible – this will reduce swelling and pain
- give painkillers regularly in the first 24 hours - then continue as needed afterwards

#### **Looking after the dressing**

- keep the dressing dry - if it should get wet, please contact Peanut Ward
- encourage your child to use the affected hand wherever possible, unless the doctors or nursing staff have instructed you otherwise

#### **If your child has been given a sling to wear**

- please remove it at least three times a day for half an hour to exercise the elbow and shoulder joints
- remove the sling at night

#### **When will the dressing be removed?**

- the dressing will be left on for approximately two weeks
- the stitches used to close the wound will not need to be removed as they are dissolvable

#### **Please contact Peanut Ward if:**

- the dressing starts to smell
- the hand/finger becomes more painful
- you have any questions or you are concerned about your child

#### **Peanut Ward**

**Tel: 01342 414469**

**Please note** - we will contact your child's GP and health visitor/ school nurse, if appropriate, so they are aware of the injury and are able to offer you help and support if needed.