

How can I contact you?

Telephone: 020 7288 5888 (Mon – Fri 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Address: Imaging Department
Whittington Health
Magdala Avenue
London
N19 5NF

Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)

If you have a compliment, complaint or concern please contact our PALS team on 020 7288 5551 or whh-tr.whitthealthPALS@nhs.net

If you need a large print, audio or translated copy of this leaflet please contact us on 020 7288 3182. We will try our best to meet your needs.

[Twitter.com/WhitHealth](https://twitter.com/WhitHealth)
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Date published: 10/07/2019
Review date: 10/07/2021
Ref: CYP/Paed/YCMRIS/02

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All about your Childs' MRI Scan



What is an MRI Scan

An MRI scan is an examination that uses a strong magnet to look at different parts of the body. It produces a detailed 3D picture of the part being examined that assists your doctor in making an accurate diagnosis.

Important – safety checklist

MRI is a safe procedure but as your child will be placed in a strong magnet, we need to obtain certain information from you. If you have answered yes to any of the following questions please call us and let us know on 0207 288 3318.

- Does your child have a cardiac pacemaker?
- Has your child had surgery in the last 3 months?
- Have metallic fragments ever entered your child's eyes at any time in their life?
- Is your child claustrophobic?
- Could your daughter be pregnant?

Does your child need any preparation?

- Most scans require no preparation but if your child needs preparation, the appropriate letter will be attached.
- Your child can take all medications normally
- Please fill the checklist and bring it with you on the day of the appointment
- Please allow up to two hours for your entire stay in the department as we often have to deal with emergencies

What are the risks?

The risks in having a MRI scan relate to the safety checklist. You must provide us with accurate information when filling in the information.

On arrival

The MRI Unit is in the main imaging department on level three. Enter the main hospital from Magdala Avenue and take the A lifts to level three.

- A member of staff will take you through the safety checklist
- Your child will be given a gown to change into and then taken into the scanning room by the Radiographer (the person performing your scan)

The MRI scan

- During the scan your child will be lying on a soft table in a tunnel with fresh air for approximately 30 minutes. The tunnel is well-lit and open at both ends.
- During the scan the machine will make several loud, banging noises. Earplugs or headphones are provided for your safety and comfort. Music is provided but you may bring your own CD if you wish.
- Your child will be given an alarm button before the scan. This allows them to stop the scan if they feel uncomfortable at any time.
- On occasion, we may need to give an injection of a dye to give us more information on the scan.

When do I get the results?

If your child has been referred from the clinic you will get the results of the scan when you next return to clinic

If you have been referred from your GP, the results will be sent within 14 working days. We are not able to give you the results straight away.