

Information for Patients and Carers

Paediatric Ultrasound
Fasting Scan
For Patients Aged 0-16 years

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of three overlapping, wavy bands of blue. The top band is a light blue, the middle is a medium blue, and the bottom is a dark blue. The waves flow from left to right across the width of the page.

What is an ultrasound scan?

An ultrasound examination is a method of studying the soft tissue of various parts of the body. Sound waves (which cannot be heard by human ear) are used to produce images. A special gel is applied to your skin, and the ultrasound probe is moved over your skin, this builds up a picture which is displayed on a TV monitor.

Why does my child need an ultrasound scan?

Your child will have been referred by the GP or the paediatrician to assess your child's abdomen/tummy. This will provide information to plan any possible future treatments.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We want your child to feel as happy and comfortable as possible with the scan, if they want to bring a toy or watch their favourite cartoon on their parent's phone during the scan they are more than welcome. If your child has special needs that you would like to discuss with us, please phone using the numbers over leaf.

Preparation for your scan

It is essential for this examination that your child has nothing to eat for 4 hours prior to the appointment time. Please ensure they drink water only. Any medications can be taken as normal.

Who can accompany my child to the scan?

Under 16 year olds must be accompanied by a parent/guardian/carer.

What happens during the scan?

Please try not to be anxious about the scan. The sonographer or doctor will discuss the procedure with you and adapt the procedure according to your child's needs.



Are there any risks?

There are no known risks.

The results

The results of your scan will be sent to the doctor who requested the scan. You will get the results from this doctor.

Car parking

A pay and display carpark is in operation. Charges apply for both visitors and staff. If your appointment is at the main hospital, you will be charged for parking. At times it can get very busy, please allow time to park prior to your scan. Disabled parking is available on site.

Contact telephone numbers

Monday to Friday 08:30 to 16:30

Ultrasound Appointments

Chorley: 01257 247793 Preston: 01772 522619

Ultrasound Enquiries

Chorley: 01257 245196 Preston: 01772 522619

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/veteran-aware

<https://bepartofresearch.nihr.ac.uk/>

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.

All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is a smoke-free site. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on any of our premises, either inside or outside the buildings. Our staff will ask you about your smoking status when you come to hospital and will offer you support and advice about stopping smoking this will include Nicotine Replacement Therapy to help manage your symptoms of withdrawal and the opportunity to speak to a nurse or advisor from the specialist Tobacco and Alcohol Care Team.

If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact Smokefree Lancashire on Freephone **08081962638**

Please ask a member of staff if you would like help in understanding this information.

This information can be made available in large print, audio, Braille and in other languages.

Our patient information group review our leaflets regularly, if you feel you would like to feedback on this information or to join our reading group please contact us on email address:

patientexperienceandinvolem@LHTR.nhs.uk

Department: Radiology/Ultrasound

Division: Diagnostics and Clinical Support

Production date: March 2026

Review date: March 2029

JR 1456 v1