

Our consultation: why we want to move children's cancer services



Easy read information

Who are we and what do we do?



We are **NHS England London and NHS England South East**. We want to give children with cancer the best care.



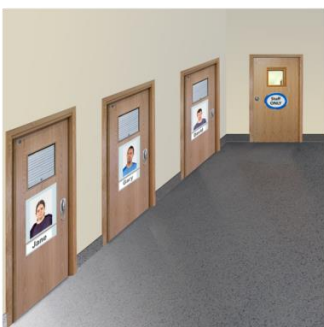
We are thinking about changing where children with cancer get most of their treatment.



We think these services should be in the same place as other services like

- intensive care
- other specialist services

We want to know what you think about these changes. This is called a **consultation**.



How to take part in our consultation

We think children's cancer treatment should be at



- **Evelina London Children's Hospital in Lambeth**

OR

- **St George's Hospital in Tooting**



Radiotherapy services would be at **University College Hospital** in the future.

You can find out more about our plans by coming to

- ✓ a meeting online or in person
- ✓ filling in our survey



You can look at our [website](#) too. You can get the **consultation** paper.

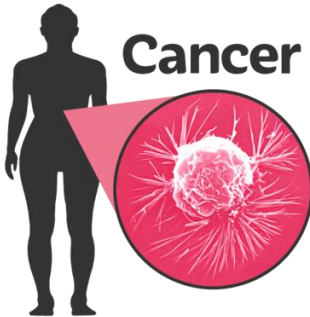


If you need help to take part, you can

- **Call 0800 135 7971**
- **Email**

england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

What the consultation is about



Having a child with cancer is very hard for everyone in the family.

We want to give children with cancer the best care.

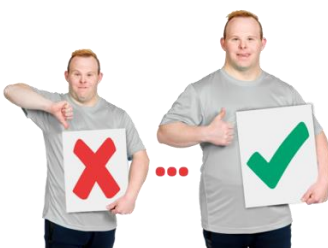


Most of the children's cancer hospital services are at **The Royal Marsden Hospital**. Some of the children's cancer services are at **St George's Hospital**.

We want to move these services so they are nearly all in the same place.



Evelina London Children's Hospital and **St George's Hospital** give very good care to children.



The Royal Marsden who provides most services doesn't have an intensive care unit for children who are very poorly.

This needs to change.

Principal Treatment Centre



A **Principal Treatment Centre** gives expert care to children with cancer.

The centre is mainly for children who are **aged one to 15 years old**.



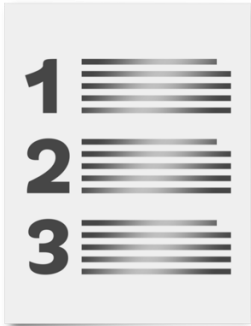
Our consultation is about the centre for children with cancer living in

- Brighton and Hove
- East Sussex
- Kent
- Medway
- South London
- Most of Surrey



The services at **The Royal Marsden Hospital** are very good. But they don't have an intensive care unit for looking after very sick children who need very special care.

Why The Royal Marsden services should move



The Royal Marsden services need to move so that

1. Very sick children don't have to travel if they need special care to stay alive

2. Sick children **don't** have to travel in case they get very sick and need more special care

3. We can improve the experience that children and their families have

4. We have a cancer centre that is ready for the future

5. We follow what **NHS England** say should happen to children's cancer services.

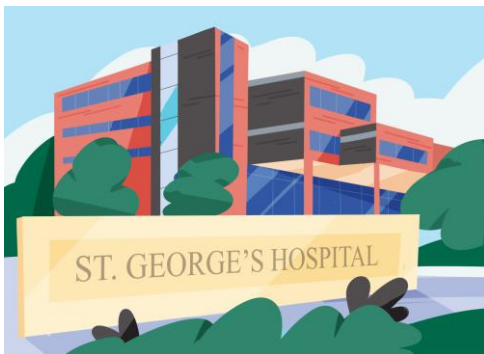


Which services would move



Evelina London Children's Hospital

If this hospital is the new **Principal Treatment Centre**, then most **children's cancer treatment** will move here. This will include some services from St George's Hospital.



St George's Hospital

If this hospital is the new **Principal Treatment Centre**, then most children's cancer treatment will be here.



The Royal Marsden Hospital also does some **radiotherapy** that children need. We want this to move to **University College Hospital**.

Children would keep going to different hospitals for some types of expert care.



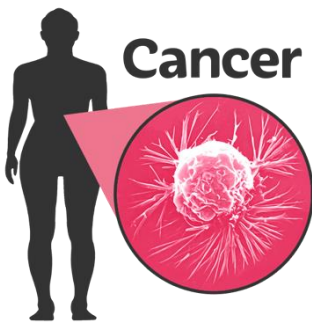
This will be much better for children with cancer who need this service. We want you to tell us what you think about all the planned changes.

More about radiotherapy



Radiotherapy is an important treatment to kill **cancer cells** in the body.

Radiotherapy with X-rays happens at **The Royal Marsden**. But children can also have radiotherapy with **proton beams**. This is a newer type of treatment.



We can have radiotherapy services in one place. We want all radiotherapy to happen at **University College Hospital**.



Radiotherapy already works like this at **Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital** and in other places too.

More about moving the hospital



We know that moving the **Principal Treatment Centre** would be a good thing.

But we also know we need to

- keep really good research going at the new hospital
- support our staff who will have to move to a new hospital site, so they feel part of things
- help to make the move to young adult services smooth and easy.



We know the move might be hard for people who use **The Royal Marsden Hospital**.

We want to make the move as easy as we can for everyone.



The move won't happen until **2026** at the earliest.

Why moving services is better for children, families and staff



Having more cancer services in the same place will mean

- very sick children need to be moved between hospitals less
- very sick children can be watched even more closely



Children with cancer, parents and carers told us they want

- ✓ the best treatment
- ✓ children to understand what is happening in a way that works for them
- ✓ a caring environment for everyone
- ✓ access to new cancer treatment medicine
- ✓ to see staff they know
- ✓ easy travel to hospital
- ✓ access to other services like mental health support



What children, families and staff say



Children told us they want

- ✓ to feel cared for
- ✓ have nice food
- ✓ get help when treatment makes them feel sad



Parents told us they want

- ✓ good cancer care for their children
- ✓ to know how children who find it hard to fight off diseases will be taken care of
- ✓ to not worry about travelling to a new centre



Staff told us they want

- ✓ to keep giving patients the best care
- ✓ to keep doing really strong research
- ✓ to get good benefits like childcare and new chances to learn



Travelling to hospital



Public transport is faster to **St George's Hospital** and **Evelina London Children's Hospital** than it is to **The Royal Marsden**.

But it will be slower to drive in a car for a lot of people.



We also looked at how long it takes to get to **University College Hospital** for radiotherapy.



We want to make sure there are really good plans for everyone, so it is as easy as possible to travel

- ✓ different choices and ways to travel
- ✓ transport to and from the hospital
- ✓ knowing how to keep sick children safe on public transport
- ✓ knowing how to get the money back for travel



What we want for the future



Wherever the new centre is, we will make sure patients have

- ✓ the best care
- ✓ important and new research to find new cancer medicines
- ✓ access to new treatments
- ✓ a family friendly centre for children and young people



We are hopeful about what the new centre will be like.



We are bringing together lots of people who know a lot about caring for children with cancer.

What are the options



Evelina London Children's Hospital and **St George's Hospital** have told us how they would run the new **Principal Treatment Centre**.



They answered the questions we asked them.

Both hospitals will make sure the new centre has



- ✓ good facilities for children with cancer and their parents
- ✓ beds for parents to stay with their children nearby
- ✓ somewhere to play and quiet places
- ✓ outdoor spaces and places to cook



Evelina London Children's Hospital



Evelina London Children's Hospital as the Principal Treatment Centre would mean



- ✓ a new cancer inpatient ward in the main children's hospital building
- ✓ a special day care unit and outpatient space
- ✓ intensive care for very sick children and cancer surgery onsite
- ✓ spaces outdoors that are close to the hospital
- ✓ lots of experience in treating seriously ill children.

St. George's Hospital



St. George's Hospital as the Principal Treatment Centre would mean

- ✓ a new cancer centre for children in the hospital with its own entrance
- ✓ outpatient clinics and day care in the new cancer centre
- ✓ intensive care for very sick children and cancer surgery
- ✓ space outdoors just for children and their families
- ✓ lots of experience in treating seriously ill children with cancer.



Thinking about the choices



We asked both hospitals to tell us about **4 main things** to make sure children get the best care. These are

1. Clinical care
2. Patient and carer experience
3. How the hospital can work smoothly
4. Access to new research



Our **Programme Board** check on all the work we are doing to make cancer care better.



The Board is made up of different leaders across **the London and South East area**.



They looked at everything to do with the move. Lots of other experts helped with this too.

Telling us what you think



We currently think the **Evelina London Children's Hospital** is the best choice to be the **Principal Treatment Centre**.

This is because the hospital had the best scores for the questions. **St George's** scored well too.



But we haven't decided yet. We want to hear what you think before we decide.



Please tell us what you think. We want to know the good things and the bad things about moving the centre.

Everything you tell us is important. It will help us to make the final choice.



We have made the consultation questions easy to read and fill out.