

Important information about your pregnancy scan

Whilst a scan is a great opportunity to see your baby, it is a medical examination requiring concentration from the sonographer. This is to ensure they can perform their checks thoroughly to make sure your baby is growing and developing as expected. It is very important for you to take the time to read the screening information provided by your midwife, before you come for your scan appointment. To assist with this, we ask that you adhere to the following:

1. Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment to allow time for parking and registration. If you are late, your scan may need to be rescheduled.
2. Due to the sensitive nature of this medical examination and to ensure the best possible care and attention during your scan, we request that children do not attend this appointment. You are welcome to bring one adult partner or support person to accompany you during your scan.
3. For parents with other children, we understand that arranging childcare can sometimes be difficult. If you are experiencing exceptional circumstances and are concerned about attending your appointment, please contact a member of our team as soon as possible. We will be happy to discuss your situation and do our best to support you throughout your pregnancy journey. We scan from 08:00–20:00 seven days a week and we should be able to offer a convenient scan appointment time to allow for you to make childcare arrangements.
4. If you need to change your scheduled appointment or have any questions, please contact our team on 0121 424 2729, Monday to Friday, 09:00–17:00.

Food is not permitted in scan rooms. Please switch off mobile phones – filming or photography is strictly prohibited in scan rooms. If you do not comply, you may be asked to leave. Verbal and physical abuse towards staff is not tolerated.

We are an equal opportunities employer and are proud to employ both male and female sonographers to perform pregnancy scans. Due to staff rotation please be aware that when you attend your appointment, we are unable to guarantee that the scan will be performed by a female sonographer. If you choose to rebook, we cannot guarantee the gender of your sonographer, and you risk your scan not being performed during the optimal timeframe.

All patients attending for pregnancy ultrasound scans will be offered the option of having a chaperone present. A chaperone is a trained healthcare professional who acts as an independent observer and supports your comfort, dignity and safety during the scan. You may also have a partner, relative or friend present for additional support; however, they do not replace the role of a trained chaperone. Please let a member of staff know your preference so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Gender of the baby

You can request to know the gender of your baby at the Fetal Anomaly Screening Programme (FASP) 20-week screening scan which will be told verbally to the mother if she requests to know. This is not the medical purpose of the scan and is not 100% accurate, and sometimes. The gender of the baby cannot be seen. Opinion on the sex of the baby is only given verbally at the time of the scan. **It will not be written down or told to other people if the mother does not wish to know.**

Department address and contact information

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust
0121 424 2729 (Monday to Friday, 09:00–17:00)

Accessibility

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