Hello, I’m Proton Panda. Come and see what happens at the proton beam therapy centre.
The proton beam therapy centre has play areas, games and fun things to do.

When you arrive, you will meet the people who are there to look after you. Some of these people are health play specialists. They will help you understand your proton beam therapy and make sure you have lots of fun while you are here.
Your first day

On the first day at the proton beam therapy centre, you will meet your consultant and key worker.

A consultant is a senior doctor who is in charge of your treatment. They plan your proton beam therapy and spend time with your family, learning all about you.

You will also meet your key worker. They will look after you when you come for treatment.

There are a few things you will need to do at the proton beam therapy centre. Let's see what they are...
A few of the things you need to have done at the proton beam therapy centre...

- Temperature
- Blood pressure
- Pulse and oxygen numbers
- Line or port
We might also need to make a mask or vac-bag for you.

Masks and vac-bags help you to keep still during your treatment and scans. They also help to keep you in the right position for your proton beam therapy. We will also make a neck rest for you.

How do we make masks and vac-bags?
We use a material that can be shaped to fit you. It feels very warm at first and then cools down.
Making your mask or vac-bag
You must stay very still when your mask or vac-bag is being made.
If you have a mask, you can decorate it with one of the health play specialists. How would you decorate yours?

You can also listen to music or an audio story. What’s on your playlist?

Permanent marks
You may need to have some marks made on your skin for your treatment. Your health play specialist will talk to you about them.

Can you see how tiny the mark is?
Before we can start your proton beam therapy, we need to do some scans. We have CT and MRI scanners here.

We even have a model scanner in our play room which you can play with to see how it works! It is called a kitten scanner.

You may need to have contrast for your scans. Contrast is a liquid that helps to make your scan pictures clearer. It is given through your line or a cannula.

After your mask or vac-bag and scans have been done, your proton beam therapy will need planning.

You will go home during the planning time.
Let’s have a look at a proton beam therapy machine. It’s called a gantry.

Our machine is just like a big camera. It can take pictures and give you your proton beam therapy which is invisible. It moves around you on the bed and makes a beeping sound.

Can you see me lying down on the bed?

I can’t feel anything during my proton beam therapy and I’m enjoying listening to my favourite music!
You might go to visit Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital. If your doctor wants you to have chemotherapy during your proton beam therapy, you will have this on Ward 84 at Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital. You will have a visit over there whilst you are in Manchester to meet everyone and look around before you start your treatment.
I hope you’ve enjoyed learning about your proton beam therapy journey.

Please ask if you have any questions about your proton beam therapy.

Design your own gantry!

Can you colour in the gantry to make it look bright and fun?
Puzzle page
Can you find the right path to all 3 pictures?

Play room | Bamboo | Gantry

Scrambled words!
Can you unscramble the words below?

Clue: A piece of equipment
NGTARLY

Clue: A cuddly black and white animal
APNAD

Clue: A place to play and have some fun!
OMRLYPAO
The proton beam therapy centre at The Christie
First floor reception: 0161 918 2300

Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital (RMCH)
Proton beam therapy nurse: 0161 701 8430
RMCH Hotline: 0161 701 7489