Paediatric Distal Radius Buckle Fracture Management

Contact details
Emergency department
01823 342906
Plaster Room
01823 342918
Monday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm
What is a Paediatric distal radius buckle fracture?
Your child has sustained an injury to their wrist called a Buckle or Torus Fracture.
This is little more than a “bone bruise” and should not cause any long-term problems.
Recovery is usually uncomplicated and under normal circumstances we will not need to see your child again.
The Trauma and Orthopaedic team will review the x-rays of your child and will contact you directly if they feel that your child needs to be seen in clinic.

Why is my child having a splint fitted?
Your child has been supplied with a wrist support (often called a futura splint) to make them more comfortable and to reduce the chance of further injury.
As this injury is very stable, it does not need treatment in plaster. Studies comparing plaster vs. splints have shown that children prefer splints and are less likely to have problems with wrist stiffness. The injury heals just as well in a splint and there is also no need to come to the hospital to have the plaster removed at a later date.

How long does my child need to wear the splint?
Your child should keep the splint on for three weeks except for bathing. If your child removes the splint before three weeks, simply reapply it. After three weeks you may remove it.

What precautions shall we take?
Your child is safe to go to school but should avoid rough play, PE and contact sports for a total of six weeks. This is to avoid any risk of further injury.
If your child suffers with severe pain that cannot be treated with simple painkillers then call our Plaster Room (details overleaf) as they may require a plaster cast for pain relief.

What happens after the splint has been removed
After three weeks, when you remove the splint, some children may complain of mild stiffness and aching. This is normal and will settle over the following week.
You should not need a further routine follow-up.
If your child has problems two weeks after the removal of the splint or if any problems or concerns arise before then, please contact your GP or the Emergency Department (details overleaf) for advice.