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Media Release

Hospital refurbishments create a more welcoming environment for young patients

Three more departments at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust have been refurbished with stunning one-piece printed graphics thanks to the Time is Precious charity.

The popular graphics, alongside new fun wall-mounted activities, have been installed to relax and distract the hospital's younger patients, while helping to support parents and carers at what can be a difficult time.

The vibrant and colourful jungle, wildlife and under the water scenes have been specially designed with input from hospital staff. The graphics have been installed in the waiting areas of the Orthodontics and Ear Nose and Throat departments and on the ceiling of an Anaesthesia room.

Helen Dwyer, Dental Nurse, said: "The new wall graphics are fantastic and such a welcome addition to the oral surgery and orthodontics waiting room.

"It's a very calm and relaxing image and we've seen first-hand how it can help to keep our younger patients entertained and take their mind off their appointment. A huge thank you to Time Is Precious for making this possible."

The graphics, which were designed and installed by the creative printing company 2601, are the latest in a long line of improvements for young people at the RUH which have been developed and funded by Time is Precious.

Nicky Halford, from Time is Precious, said: “We know how daunting a hospital visit can be for anyone, let alone young patients, and hope the new graphics will help make the experience a little less stressful for them.

“It is always a pleasure to support the RUH and their patients in any way we can. We have plans to refurbish at least another five more areas in the near future.”

Time is Precious charity was set up in 2011 by Neil and Nicky Halford in memory of their son Ben, who passed away from cancer aged just five. Ben was treated at the RUH, as well as hospitals in Bristol.

The aim of the charity is to help create a more comfortable and relaxed atmosphere for children and their families in hospital and at home, by purchasing distraction equipment and refurbishing areas.

To date, it has donated more than £450,000 to the RUH in the form of equipment and refurbishment projects.

You can find out more about Time is Precious on its website: <https://timeisprecious.org/>

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Notes to Editor:

At the RUH we're proud to put people at the heart of what we do, striving to create an environment where everyone matters. Everyone means the people we care for, the people we work with and the people in our community.

We provide a wide range of services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

We also provide specialist services for rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME via the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases which we acquired in 2015.

In 2021, we acquired Sulis Hospital Bath, an independent hospital that provides care for both private and NHS patients. This has enabled us to provide more care for NHS patients, as well as continuing to provide private care to those who choose it. Any additional income earned through private care is reinvested in services for the benefit of the people we care for at both Sulis and the RUH.

Our new Dyson Cancer Centre brings together many of the RUH's cancer services under one roof to provide a cancer services hub for over 500,000 people in the South West. The centre includes the RUH's oncology, chemotherapy and radiotherapy services, a 22-bed inpatient ward, a dedicated pharmacy, research team and nuclear medicine and physics teams.

A key feature of the new centre is the Macmillan Wellbeing Hub. The three-storey hub provides a welcoming, non-clinical space designed around the needs of patients and their families. It also includes comfortable accommodation where relatives and loved ones can stay overnight.



Royal United Hospitals Bath

NHS Foundation Trust

We work closely with other health and care organisations as members of the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board. We strive to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in our community by working together build one of the healthiest places to live and work.

We are rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk