Pan Thames Paediatric LTV Programme

North Thames Paediatric Network
Connecting paediatric services

South Thames Paediatric Network
Transforming Healthcare for Children and Young People

Be ready, stay safe

Information for families whose children rely on electrical medical equipment



www.ltv.services

Power cuts



Severe weather



Flooding



Alerts and warnings

NHS

Why be prepared?

Power cuts, severe weather, flooding and other unexpected events can sometimes disrupt the services we rely on.

If your child or young person **relies on electrical medical equipment** (such as ventilators, oxygen concentrators, nutrition pumps and dialysis machines), planning ahead and knowing where to find help can make it easier to respond if something happens.

Visit **https://beready.campaign.gov.uk** for useful information about how you can prepare in the case of an emergency, including a **'Be Ready' checklist** that you can download.

Ventilator battery details



Number of:

Ventilators

External batteries

Ventilator model:

Internal battery life:

hours

External (spare) battery life:

hours

If there is a power cut

Please see the guidance below from the Pan London ventilator competencies (CYP = Child or Young Person).

Children who use ventilators

Where an **internal battery is present**, the CYP can remain on the ventilator.

If you have a **second backup ventilator**, consider switching to this **if the battery is running low** on the first ventilator.

If the battery is running low and the CYP is dependent on the ventilator, a place of safety with a confirmed power supply should be sought, such as a friend or family or the nearest hospital.

If the CYP is non-dependent on the ventilator (is able to breathe unaided during the day but needs a ventilator for supportive ventilation usually at night) and the battery has run out, take the CYP off the ventilator immediately and if necessary wake them if their symptoms occur when asleep.

If the ventilator has no internal battery and the CYP is non-dependent, take the CYP off the ventilator immediately and if necessary wake them if their symptoms occur when asleep.

Return the CYP to the ventilator when power resumes.

Children who use oxygen concentrators

The company that supplies your oxygen concentrator should have provided you with an oxygen cylinder for emergency use. Contact your provider if you haven't recieved one.

The Priority Services Register

Extra support when you need it most.

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free service that gives extra support to utility customers who may need it.

Support may include:

- **Extra support** during a power cut or interruption to supply.
- **Being kept informed** about incidents in your area, or planned interruptions.

How to sign up for Priority Services

1. Visit www.thepsr.co.uk
2. Enter your postcode to find out who your local electricity network operator is.
3. The PSR website will identify your local electricity network operator, and direct you to their website to sign up for Priority Services.
4. Your local electricity network operator will process your request and share your details and request with your utility providers as well as your water and gas network operators.

Alerts to look out for

Receive information straight to your mobile phone about severe weather, flooding and other emergencies.



Emergency alerts

The UK government has an emergency alerts system that provides warning and advice in a life-threatening emergency: www.gov.uk/alerts



Flooding

Sign up to receive flood warnings by text, phone or email: www.gov.uk/get-flood-warnings
or call 0345 988 1188 (24/7)



Air quality

Check air quality in your local area and **sign up** for air pollution alerts:
www.check-air-quality.service.gov.uk
or call 03459 33 55 77 (Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm)



Met Office weather warnings

View weather forecasts, read advice and **sign up for alerts** and warnings:
www.weather.metoffice.gov.uk

Important contacts



Call 999

If there is an immediate risk to life, or if someone is in danger.



Call 105

If there is a power cut, or you see something dangerous (like power lines have been brought down) www.powercut105.com



Call 0800 111 999

If you smell gas, suspect a leak, or carbon monoxide emergency.

Useful information



Your block letter:

Find your block letter at: www.powercut105.com

Your block letter is a code that helps power networks identify which part of the electrical grid your home is connected to. In the unlikely event that a power cut rota (three hour planned energy blackout) is introduced in an energy shortage, most people in the same 'block letter' will be without power at the same time.

Keep this leaflet somewhere safe for future reference.