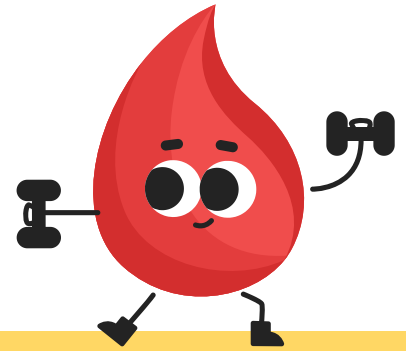


REMEMBER..

- Your Medicare card for bulk billing
- Call 13 PATH before attending with your child to ensure we are well prepared for your arrival.

PREPARING for your child's BLOOD TEST



“Why do I need a blood test?”

Your blood pumps around your body and battles germs, delivers vital nutrients, and keeps you warm.

But sometimes our white blood cells have trouble fighting off the germs. The blood test helps the doctor understand how to beat the germs to make you feel better again.

“What happens to me?”

You will wait until they take you into a special room with a big comfortable chair where a person will take a tiny sample of your blood. You can sit on your adult's lap or hold hands if you want, and your job is to keep your arm very still. It will be over really quickly.

“Will it hurt?”

Remember, your special job is to stay very, very still and take deep breaths so it won't hurt too much. It might feel like a quick sting. It's up to you if you would like to watch or close your eyes. Then it will be over and you can go home and play!

“Who will be there?”

Your special adult will stay with you for the test and there will be a person called a phlebotomist who does the test. You can ask the phlebotomist questions about your test.



READY FOR YOUR CHILD'S BLOOD TEST?

Ensure your child is well hydrated. If fasting is required for their test, they can still drink water if thirsty.

Keep them warm, especially on the arms.

Ask the PathWest collector for a Bravery Certificate once the test is done.

For young children, sitting on your lap can provide security, comfort and support. Our staff can help you determine the best way to hold your child to ensure everyone's safety and a successful blood draw.

Numbing cream applied topically on the skin can help to minimise pain in children. This may be purchased over-the-counter from a pharmacy, but can take time to work, so plan ahead!

We recommend your child avoids strenuous activity for at least two hours after their blood test.

