Getting an Operation

Sometimes I get sick or hurt.

When this happens, I might go to the hospital so a doctor can look at me.
This is okay because the doctor can help me feel better.

Sometimes, I may need an operation to help me feel better.
The doctors will put me to sleep during the operation so it isn’t painful.

A few hours before the surgery, I will come into hospital. I will not be able to eat or drink.
The nurses will help me change into a hospital gown, relax and lie down on the bed.

Mum and Dad will be there the whole time and can hold my hand.
To help me go to sleep, the doctor might:

- Put a mask on my face to breathe

- Put cold cream on my hand and insert a needle to give me medication
I will feel very sleepy and drowsy and fall asleep very quickly. This is normal.

The doctors will then do the operation.
After the operation, I will be taken to the recovery room.

Mum and Dad will be there in recovery to help me.
The nurses will look after me there. When I wake up in recovery, I might feel very tired.

Sometimes I might feel pain after my surgery. If I do, I can tell the nurse who can help me.
I will stay in hospital until I am ready to go home. The nurses will check my heart, breathing and temperature often.

I might need to take some tablets in the first few days after surgery to help me feel better.
Everyone will be proud of me for being brave and getting an operation.