**Patients**- Returns from leave or there are concerns regarding prohibited or restricted items on persons or belongings

For Detained patients-
Obtain consent

Consent denied

Consent granted

Consent denied but search still deemed necessary:
- Seek authorisation from Registered Clinician for search.
- Document authorisation.
- Consider enhanced observations.

Consent granted

- Search for items listed below.
- Seize items and store safely.
- Document items seized.
- Inform police if required.
- Seek advice from LSMS if required.

Consent denied

Visitors- Where there are concerns regarding prohibited or restricted items or within the risk assessment of the unit

For Informal patients-
Obtain consent

Consent denied

Consent granted

Obtain consent from visitor

No consent given
- No entry granted

Consent given – search property as well as person

Items not found
- Entry will be granted

Items found
- Seize the items
- Safely store and document the seizure of items
- Inform police if item constitutes a criminal offence
- **No entry granted**

**Items to be searched for:**
- Items from restricted/prohibited list
- Items which could cause injury to themselves or others
- Items to aid escape
- Ignition sources
- Items of hazard to health and hygiene

Always remember to …

Be professional

Be aware of dignity & privacy

Report incident on Datix

Always search with 2 staff present

Ensure safe handling of seized items

Record, document and secure seized items correctly