

Information Sheet for visitors:

Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice Visitors' Agreement

The Hospice has a duty of care towards its patients and their visitors and staff, and we are taking every precaution to minimise the risks posed by Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Hospice patients, particularly those who are on the Inpatient Unit, are potentially vulnerable to the virus. The Hospice continues to consider government guidance alongside the needs of individual patients and families when determining the necessary steps to protect our patients and staff; these are continually monitored and our processes updated as required. Before visiting your loved one on the Hospice Inpatient Unit, we ask you to please read the following and if you agree to abide by the guidelines, sign where indicated.

The guidelines are:

Do not visit the Hospice if you have COVID -19 symptoms or have a positive COVID-19 diagnosis. The symptoms of COVID-19 can include:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- Shortness of breath
- Feeling tired and exhausted
- An aching body
- A headache
- A sore throat
- Blocked or runny nose
- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhoea
- Feeling sick or being sick

However, if you do not have any of the above symptoms, but feel unwell, it is wise to stay away and seek medical advice if symptoms persist.

In addition, we urge you **not to visit** your loved one if:

- You have tested positive to Covid 19, it is likely that even without symptoms you can pass Covid on to others. Many people with COVID-19 will no longer be infectious to others after 5 days. If you have a positive COVID-19 test result, try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days after the day you took your test; please look at the government website for the most up to date advice.
- You have come into contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19
- Someone you have been in contact with is experiencing any of the above symptoms

Visiting Agreement for people visiting the Hospice Inpatient Unit

All visitors to the Hospice must respect the measures that we have put in place to maintain everyone's safety.

Each patient is welcome to nominate up to twelve people who can visit, please note that only four of these twelve visitors can visit together each day. Visiting is for an unlimited amount of time, day and night; this must be the same people throughout the patient's stay. Patients will be asked for this information prior to admission.

The Next of Kin/patient will be asked to identify any additional people who are important to the patient as part of the admission process. Where the medical/nursing team identify that a patient has deteriorated

and is thought to be entering the last days of life, those important to the patient will be invited to come to the Hospice to visit. At this point they can come and go as they please.

General Guidance for visiting

When you are planning to visit a patient on the Inpatient Unit, it is essential that every visitor agrees to the following:

- Wear a face covering when entering the Hospice and the Inpatient Unit. To protect the limited supply of face masks available to the Hospice, we ask you to provide your own face covering unless there are exceptional circumstances – please speak to a member of staff if this is the case.
- Observe social distancing guidelines at all times.
- It is in the best interest of patients that you continue to carry out LFD self-testing the morning of your visit.
- Maintain good hand hygiene, always clean your hands when entering and exiting the ward and wash/sanitise your hands regularly during your visit. Please use the hand sanitizer and hand washing sinks.
- Adhere to all Hospice risk management procedures that have been put in place in line with the Department for Health and Social Care Standard Operating Procedures.

Lateral Flow Device Testing (LFD)

Although visitors are no longer subject to daily lateral flow device (LFD) testing. We encourage that you continue to do so if you have access to these tests. Due to the vulnerability of the patients here at the Hospice.

If you have any symptoms at all, we would ask that you do not come to the Hospice.

Testing yourself:

At Home:

If you chose to continue with LFD please follow the instructions in the kit and carry out the test the morning of your visit.

You can get a supply of tests to do at home from local high street pharmacies who charge about £2 per test.

Some people may still qualify for free LFD tests if you think you are eligible you can order [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests) or you can call 119.

Information Sheet for visitors:

Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice Visitors' Agreement

Visitor 1: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 2: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 3: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 4: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

NOTE: Information sheet returned to visitor

Staff signature

Date

Visitor 5: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 6: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 7: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 8: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 9: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 10: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting.....

Your signature

Date

Visitor 11: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting

Your signature

Date

Visitor 12: I have read, understood and agree to abide by these guidelines:

Your name

I am visiting

Your signature

Date

NOTE: Information sheet returned to visitor

Staff signature

Date