

News from the Friarage

and other local health and social care services



Urgent temporary changes to services at the Friarage

URGENT temporary changes to services have been introduced at the Friarage to ensure continued provision of safe clinical services.

The changes are due to significant gaps in the critical care and anaesthetic workforce and affect critical care services, resulting in the Accident and Emergency (A&E) service temporarily changing to a 24/7 Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC).

Up to eight patients a day will be affected by urgent temporary service changes, with three patients during hours and five patients out of hours being cared for at The James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough or the Darlington Memorial Hospital.

Where appropriate, patients will return to the Friarage once their condition has improved, for the remainder of their hospital stay.

The Trust is committed to developing a safe, long term and sustainable future for the Friarage and once the current services have been stabilised to ensure patient safety, the Trust will be working in partnership with the Clinical Commissioning Group to deliver a full public consultation.

More information, including a leaflet about the urgent temporary service changes, can be found at [southtees.nhs.uk/hospitals/friarage/temporary-changes-to-services-at-the-friarage-hospital/](https://www.southtees.nhs.uk/hospitals/friarage/temporary-changes-to-services-at-the-friarage-hospital/)

Proud to be smokefree

The Friarage officially became a smokefree NHS site on 1 April as part of a major national drive to support more people to quit.

“A smokefree NHS is about so much more than having smokefree sites,” said Louise Hand, smokefree trust project manager. It is about improving the health of staff and patients by identifying those who smoke and offering them practical support to quit.

“As well as rebranding our main hospital entrance ways with the Time to Clear the Air message, we are making sure staff and patients who smoke are provided with the advice and tools they need to quit smoking, or at least abstain while in hospital.

“Nicotine replacement therapy is now available on all of our wards and we are routinely offering stop smoking advice to patients in all clinical areas.”



Ensuring continuity of care for theatre patients

PATIENTS undergoing surgery at the Friarage can now benefit from having the same nurse or operating department practitioner supporting them throughout their procedure.

This means they are with a familiar member of staff from the moment they go to sleep in the anaesthetic room to the moment they open their eyes in the recovery room.

Usually an operating department has one anaesthetic nurse in each theatre plus another group of nurses waiting for patients to arrive in the recovery room.

Now the Friarage – when staffing levels allow – has two nurses in each theatre who stay with each patient from start to finish.

This continuity of care helps to reduce the risk of errors and has cut turnaround times so more patients can be operated on each day.



Theatre staff Sarah Baker, Carol Jowers, Julie Clark, Rachel Smith and Michelle Grant

New maternity model

THE maternity team at the Friarage are rolling out a new scheme on the back of the Better Births Report published in 2016, which issued guidance on providing 'continuity of carer' in maternity services.

Evidence suggests that care from a known midwife throughout pregnancy, labour, birth and the postnatal period can be associated with improved health outcomes for mother and baby.

Wherever possible care at the Friarage will now be provided by the woman's named midwife, but they may be seen on occasion by other members of the team.

The service is available to all low risk women, who have been identified as being suitable to deliver on the midwife led unit. This includes women living throughout the entire South Tees area.

Join our growing community of volunteers

THIS year sees the launch of our Therapeutic Support @ South Tees programme with all volunteers - from wayfinders to work experience students - brought together under one team to help make a real difference to our patients and visitors.

Under the leadership of Debi McKeown, lead nurse for therapeutic support, the staff, volunteers and work experience students – aged from 16 to 82 - provide valuable therapeutic support to patients, visitors and staff. Find out more at southtees.nhs.uk/services/therapeutic-support/



Free WiFi

FREE NHS WiFi is now available for staff, patients and visitors at the Friarage.

NHS WiFi can be accessed in patient areas by selecting NHS WiFi from a mobile phone, tablet device or laptop and following the simple onscreen registration instructions.

This issue is brought to you by: NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group • South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust • Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust • Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust