

The Chaplaincy Service works closely with a range of faith and cultural communities across Swindon to ensure the service stays up-to-date. The team will do all they can to meet any specific religious or cultural needs.

How do I contact the Chaplaincy Service?

For urgent support contact the on-call chaplain or Roman Catholic Priest through switchboard on **01793 604020**, seven days a week, 24 hours a day, or simply ask a member of staff to contact the service on your behalf and a chaplain will meet with you.

For less urgent support phone the chaplaincy office on **01753 604288** or email **gwh.chaplaincy@nhs.net**

Visit the Chaplaincy Office on the First Floor of the Great Western Hospital, next to the Ophthalmology Department.

The Chaplaincy Centre as a place for reflection is open all of the time.



Chaplaincy Centre for Spiritual Care

This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

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Chaplaincy: Spiritual and Pastoral Care Service



Chaplaincy: Spiritual and pastoral care service

We have a chaplaincy service to deliver and facilitate spiritual care, because spirituality has a direct effect on the health and wellbeing integral to all human beings.

It is the lifelong process through which we find our centre in the world, how we establish our relationships, find love, connection, meaning and purpose, empowerment, confidence and wellbeing.

Spiritual care is part of proper provision in health care, and is nothing to do with proselytising, which is persuading or imposing one person's religious beliefs on another person.

The Chaplaincy Service offers spiritual care to all patients, their carers, friends and family. It's also available to support the spiritual needs of staff and volunteers.

People who are ill or who have a family member who is ill, may have spiritual or emotional needs. Additionally staff or volunteers may be experiencing a difficult time.

Our service can help you deal with the experiences of life and death, illness and injury in the context of a faith or belief system.

The service is open to everyone regardless of religious belief seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Please call, email or ask a member of staff.

When a patient leaves hospital the chaplaincy can offer advice for continuing care and support in the community for as long as required.

How the Chaplaincy Service can help

Any emotional situation, which is upsetting, painful or causing anxiety, can impact on your wellbeing.

Chaplains are trained and experienced in listening to and supporting people in difficult situations and offer a sensitive and discreet service to anyone who needs support.

The service aims to provide a greater sense of empowerment, confidence and wellbeing.

Some of the painful feelings people may experience where support might be needed include anger, isolation, guilt, despair, doubt, fear and bereavement.

The team can also help with cultural and religious routines and rites of passage.

How does the Chaplaincy Service work?

As well as employed Chaplains, the hospital has a number of Chaplaincy Ward Visitors who are assigned to individual wards.

Chaplaincy Ward Visitors visit the wards to meet people who would like to talk or who have specific religious or cultural needs. Where it is appropriate, the Chaplain may also be contacted to provide support.

This Chaplaincy Service is bound by all hospital policies and is fully accountable to Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.