



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Hospital bed space and social distancing

In line with national guidance The Great Western Hospital are constantly reviewing the service we provide so our staff can continue to care for you or your family/friend safely while coronavirus (COVID-19) remains a threat to everyone's health.

One of our recent changes is to the space allocation in between hospital beds. We aim for a 2 metre distance to help towards reducing the spread of any infection and to keep everyone safe.

This leaflet is being shared with you and your family as we have unfortunately had to care for you or your family member in a bed space that did not meet the 2 metre social distancing guidance between hospital patients. This is due to an increased need for hospital beds. Our promise to you is that we have risk assessed the use of space before putting these bed spaces in to use.

In addition, we have undertaken a risk assessment on this ward to ensure that we have minimised your risk as far as possible in order to give you the clinical care you need. We will consider your individual risk factors, so that your transfer is carried out in the safest way.

To keep you as safe as possible, we will make sure everyone has the correct personal protective equipment and are committed to making sure that staff are increasing their hand hygiene.

We have where possible, used hanging clear screens to provide a physical barrier between some of these bed spaces to provide additional protection. Please be aware these are flexible screens and **they do move** to enable staff to work around them.

We have increased ward cleaning and may change the layout of the ward environment slightly to keep everyone safe during these times.

Please be assured that we will care for patients that have symptoms of, or are known to be coronavirus (COVID-19) positive in specific areas of the hospital.

We would like to apologise that it has been necessary to take this step and would like to assure you that we continue to review the situation so we can return to 2 metre social distancing at the earliest opportunity.

The safety and wellbeing of you and your family / carer is our number one priority and to ensure that all patients remain safe we would ask you to make contact with NHS 119 or your GP if you develop any of the recognised coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms within 14 days of your discharge from hospital.



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Exposure advice to a confirmed infection

Symptoms include a temperature, new cough or loss of taste/smell. If you are informed you are coronavirus (COVID-19) positive after leaving hospital please contact NHS 111 or your GP.

Please do not hesitate to contact the ward manager or matron if you have any questions.

Smoking is not permitted on any NHS site in England. Smoking will not be permitted within any of our buildings or anywhere outside on our sites, smoking facilities will not be provided. Please be considerate of others when vaping in hospital grounds.

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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