

# Building a sustainable future for the Friarage

## Temporary changes to services at the Friarage Hospital

There are temporary changes to some services provided at the Friarage Hospital from 27 March 2019. The changes apply to accident and emergency (A&E) and critical care.



### Accident & Emergency



The accident and emergency (A&E) service at the Friarage Hospital will temporarily change to an Urgent Treatment Centre from 27 March 2019.

### How does this affect the Friarage?

An A&E department can treat patients with life threatening injuries and illnesses.

Patients with these conditions will be treated at The James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough or the Darlington Memorial Hospital.

The majority of patients who attend A&E at the Friarage will still be treated in the Friarage Urgent Treatment Centre.

### When can I use the Friarage Urgent Treatment Centre?

 24 hours a day  
7 days a week

You do not need an appointment to attend. You can walk in to the UTC, or you may be directed there by NHS 111.



## Who will provide services in the Friarage Urgent Treatment Centre?

Our current A&E team will continue to provide care to patients in the Friarage Urgent Treatment Centre.

### Medical admissions

A medical consultant will continue to be on site to assess and triage all GP and 999 patients and will make a medical assessment and decision to admit a patient to hospital in our clinical decisions unit, which will remain unchanged.

We will also have a rapid diagnostic service supporting the urgent treatment centre, in order to make early clinical decisions and ensure as many patients are treated at the Friarage as possible.

### Medical admissions can only occur between the following hours

Monday to Friday



08:30



18:30

Weekends / Bank Holidays



08:30



16:30

Outside these hours, if you require medical admission you will be directed to another hospital.

## What can I use the Friarage Urgent Treatment Centre for?

In the Friarage Urgent Treatment Centre, adults and children will be able to be treated for:

- ✓ **Strains and sprains**
- ✓ **Suspected broken limbs**
- ✓ **Minor head injuries**
- ✓ **Cuts and grazes**
- ✓ **Bites and stings**
- ✓ **Minor scalds and burns**
- ✓ **Ear and throat infections**
- ✓ **Skin infections and rashes**
- ✓ **Eye problems**
- ✓ **Coughs and colds**
- ✓ **Feverish illness**
- ✓ **Abdominal pain**
- ✓ **Vomiting and diarrhoea**

We will now be able to treat children with minor illnesses, such as fever, rashes and earache, which is something that we haven't been able to do before.

The Friarage Urgent Treatment Centre will not be able to treat life-threatening injuries or illnesses, such as:

- ✗ **Severe chest pains**
- ✗ **Unconsciousness**
- ✗ **Severe breathing difficulties**
- ✗ **Uncontrollable bleeding**

If it is an emergency, please call 999.

If you are not sure where you should go, please contact your **GP** or **NHS 111** for advice.



## Critical Care

Critical care is for patients who require significant intervention and support to help them with breathing or heart function, for example, as a result of a major injury, serious illness or complex surgery.

From 27 March, patients requiring critical care will be cared for at The James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough or the Darlington Memorial Hospital.

Very few patients will be affected by these changes. Those patients that will be impacted by these changes are mainly colorectal patients, as this is complex surgery, requiring critical care.

## Surgery and clinics at the Friarage Hospital

All other surgery will continue to be provided at the Friarage Hospital and the Trust is currently drawing up plans to increase the provision of low-complex and non-critical care dependent surgery at the Friarage Hospital.

All other services are remaining unchanged.

These changes are temporary and once we have stabilised our current services, we plan to enter into a full public consultation. South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is committed to developing a safe, long term and sustainable future for the Friarage Hospital.

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