



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

*making every moment count*

Monday 19 July 2021

Dear family member,

## **Visiting arrangements on Arthur Rank Hospice Charity In-Patient Unit**

### **Face Covering and Social Distancing continues**

From Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021 the Government has announced the end of current legal restrictions introduced to help manage the Covid pandemic. However, England's Chief Nurse has reminded the public that everyone accessing or visiting healthcare settings **must** continue to wear a face covering and follow social distancing rules.

Public Health England's infection prevention control guidelines are set to remain in place for all staff and visitors, including in this Hospice.

Staff, patients and visitors are expected to continue to **follow social distancing rules** when visiting any care setting as well as using **face coverings, masks and other personal protection equipment**.

### **Visiting the Hospice**

Please **do not visit if you have any symptoms of COVID-19** or are feeling generally unwell or if you have been asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace.

Please **wash your hands thoroughly** before entering the IPU and on leaving and regularly in between.

**We ask all visitors using the communal areas to observe social spacing and when using the kitchen one family is permitted at a time.** Please wash your hands before and after using any items and use the wipes provided to wipe down any areas that have been touched once you have finished using this space.

### **Testing at home before your visit**

We also ask that visitors complete a **Lateral Flow Device Test twice weekly at home prior to visiting**. Testing before you visit the Hospice provides greater protection for us all. It minimises the risk of people coming into the building who may be unknowingly spreading the virus. You will need to register your test and result and we will ask you to show your most recent test result when you arrive on the unit.

Tests can be obtained from the following link. [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)

Whether you are testing at home or are being tested for work or other purposes, **please provide proof of a recent negative test when you visit.** Testing remains one way that we can help in the battle against coronavirus, as well as washing your hands, wearing a face mask, social distancing, and adequate ventilation. These all help to protect your loved ones, staff, volunteers and other visitors to the Hospice.

**On arrival to the Inpatient Unit, staff will ask to see the confirmation text/email.** Test results can be valid for up to four days. Please talk to a member of staff if you are having problems obtaining your test kits or if you have any questions or queries.

Once again, we ask that **if you or a member of your household are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 that you do not visit.** Staff will happily keep you updated. iPads and Facebook portals are available for patients to use to maintain contact with their loved ones.

Thank you for your continued support with our efforts to keep loved ones connected and keeping everyone as safe as possible if you wish to discuss any of the contents of this letter please ring 01223 675 900 between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Allen

Chief Executive