

26th November 2020

With the announcement that Haslemere is within a Tier 2 area, and with general Covid-19 prevalence in the UK still being a concern, patient visiting at Holy Cross will remain suspended up to and including Friday 18th December 2020.

We are working on plans to reopen visiting for a fortnight at Christmas from Saturday 19th December 2020 to Sunday 3rd January 2021, and will update you with further details next week.

As a headline, this will be on a pre-booked basis, and available to visitors from Tier 2 or Tier 1 areas only, to people who are not self-isolating (nor in quarantine) and to people who don't have coronavirus symptoms. If you are planning larger family gatherings at Christmas, we will be asking you to arrange your visit to Holy Cross to take place before your Christmas family get-together.

As a hospital, we are not eligible for routine testing for patients and staff every few days (as care homes are), and as an independent hospital we are not able to access the NHS supply chain for PPE. So our planning will focus on enabling visiting in a safe way for patients, for staff and for you.

Two weeks ago we informed you of a Covid-19 outbreak at the Marie-Therese House (MTH) convent next door to the Hospital. I am pleased to inform you that negative test results have been returned for all the sisters and for the convent staff too (with just two staff results still outstanding). The four sisters and one member of staff who tested positive a couple of weeks ago experienced mild symptoms only, something that we are extremely relieved about and thankful for. Enhanced regimes will remain in place at MTH until the final two results are returned as negative.

Please continue to be in touch with our reception team (T: 01428 643311 reception@holycross.org.uk) to arrange video/ Skype/ zoom calls. Please keep telephone calls to a minimum especially between 8am -11am and 3pm -7pm.

Finally, thank you for your part in keeping everyone safe at Holy Cross. We know that it isn't easy with visiting being suspended, but we do look forward to seeing you nearer to Christmas.

Feel free to get back to us if you have any questions.