

29th December 2021

Good afternoon,

The Management Team met this morning to review the current Covid situation.

Today we have 17 members of staff isolating, as well as a patient who is receiving treatment. Our outbreak is within St Anthony's ward, plus two members of the inpatient physiotherapy team. Our hope and wish is for everyone to get well soon, and our aim is to contain Covid within the one ward.

Thank You

Managing ward staffing levels has been challenging and may remain so for a while longer, but I want to thank everyone who has stepped up, worked additional hours, agreed to alter shifts, and/or come in for shifts that had originally been booked as leave*.

More Testing, Visiting, and Outpatients

An all staff PCR test was taken this morning and results will not be known until tomorrow/Friday. Visiting will be suspended for a further week (in other words not before Monday 10th January). However, we will communicate this to friends and relatives tomorrow (we will let you know as soon as we have sent out this update) . Outpatient Physiotherapy services will not reopen before Monday 10th January.

Please note that the next all staff PCR test will be Tuesday 4th January, and daily Lateral Flow testing remains in place.

Gatherings and New Year

Many of us will have gathered with others at Christmas (family, friends, church, shopping, events, etc.), and the guidance in England is to use our own judgement. However, it's difficult to get that judgement right always. Covid prevalence in the community remains high and record numbers of positive PCR results have been recorded this week in the UK. So ahead of New Year, can we remind everyone again that through limiting our social contacts we will help to slow the spread of Covid-19.

Thank you again for your commitment and focus as we move from a challenging 2021 to a new year.

Kind regards

Ross

*people who cover a shift while on A/L will be paid for their leave day as well as the time they work. Alternatively people can choose to delay leave to another time in the next three months.