

The Hospital Chaplains

The chaplains are members of the hospital staff and part of the whole service offered to you whilst your child is in hospital.

We are here for everyone: children, parents, other relatives, carers and staff.

The NHS Patients Charter commits to respect “your privacy, dignity, religious and cultural beliefs” and promises to look after people “physically, mentally and spiritually”.

Our main purpose

Chaplains offer spiritual support. Inner, spiritual, pain may be experienced in many ways. For example, you may feel deep upset or fear, a sense of isolation, that your life is turned upside-down, a deep questioning (“Why my child?”) or a deep numbness. Chaplains are there to meet people where they are, to listen compassionately and to “walk with” that person, supporting them in whatever way we can. This is the key role of chaplains. All conversations are private and confidential.

Sometimes spiritual care involves supporting patients, parents or carers in their religious beliefs. These may be specific and chaplains will either provide this support themselves or help you get in touch with someone of your own faith. Often the need is less specific and chaplains will respond to any request to talk, perhaps privately, or to say a prayer for your child, either with you, if you wish, or later, privately.

Getting in touch with a chaplain

The easiest way is to ask your child’s nurse to contact us. If your need is urgent they will contact us via the switchboard. Alternatively, they or you can contact our answer-phone on extension 17338.

Chaplains make regular visits to all wards but they can be contacted at any time. Chaplains carry a “long distance pager”.

Patients, parents or carers may want to share a time of prayer or to talk privately. The chaplains are there for everyone, whatever your beliefs.

There is a team of part time chaplains employed by the Trust, mainly of Christian and Free Church tradition, and a Muslim Imam. A chaplain is normally on site part of the day Monday to Friday. All are available to support you even if you do not have any formal religious beliefs and are available to the other Trust sites.

Chaplaincy cover is provided 24 hours a day, everyday via the hospital switchboard. Chaplains from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals or locum chaplains share the emergency on-call rota during the night and at weekends.

If you have a religious affiliation that is neither Christian nor Muslim, the chaplains have faith representatives from the main world faiths who they can contact for you.

We are here to help you whatever your inner, spiritual or religious needs.

The Chaplaincy Centre

This is on the top floor of Blue Wing, two floors above the restaurant, next to the Cystic Fibrosis Unit. There is:

- **The Chapel** - this is a quiet place where you can be alone to think or pray, not an over religious space, very welcoming to all of faith or none.
- **The Muslim Prayer Room** - with ablution facilities.
- **The chaplains’ office** - a place for a private conversation if you want this.

Please feel free to go to the Chapel or Prayer Room whenever you wish. They are open 24 hours every day.

There is also a chapel at Becton which is available, please ask a member of staff if you wish to use it.

For further information contact the chaplains on extn.17338.

Information Leaflet number:

Author/Contact:

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Sheffield Children's 
NHS Foundation Trust

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[0114 271 7338](tel:01142717338)

THE CHAPLAINCY TEAM PARENT INFORMATION

For further advice contact:

Main hospital number: 0114 271 7000

Patient Advice & Liaison Team (PALS)
The Children's Hospital
Western Bank
Sheffield
S10 2TH

PALS office: 0114 271 7594

www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk

Our young patients
are at the centre of everything
we do and all our work is focused
on providing them with the
best facilities, equipment and
experience possible, helping to
provide a world-class facility that
is positioned at the very forefront
of paediatric care.

The
Children's
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Charity 

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