

Ellern Mede Group Visiting Policy 2022

We are committed to ensuring the young people at all Ellern Mede sites whom we support are able to spend quality time with their family and friends.

We offer several family-friendly infection-controlled visiting rooms. Family and friends must pre-book their visits with the Ward team as well as reception so that the visiting rooms will be booked.

We request that families and friends avoid visiting young people at meal times or when they have school and therapy sessions. This will help to minimise any disruption to patient treatment programmes and education. However, if a visit is approved by the Responsible Consultant, we will do everything we can to accommodate this. Visiting hours are more relaxed during the weekends.

Mealtimes Weekdays

Breakfast 8.30am-9.00am

Morning Snack 10.30am -10.45am

Lunch 12.45 -1.15pm

Afternoon Snack 3.15pm -3.30pm

Dinner 6.00pm -6.30pm

Evening Snack 9.00pm -9.15pm

At weekends and holidays, breakfast, and morning snack are served half an hour later than the times shown above.

NG feeding times may vary.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES IN PLACE IN 2022

1. All visits to Ellern Mede sites are individually risk assessed by the patient's RC in conjunction with their MDT and the Centre Manager. Covid will only be one element of this risk assessment.
2. The RC's decision regarding frequency is on a case-by-case basis and each decision will have been very carefully considered and must be respected.
3. We no longer request that visitors provide evidence of negative Lateral Flow Testing however, they are requested to sign a COVID-19 declaration form (Appendix 6) and have a normal temperature reading upon arrival (below 38 degrees) and maintain a sensible approach to handwashing, social distancing, and face coverings during the visit, as guided by our clinical staff teams.
4. We accept there may be situations where we cannot safely continue "as normal" and may have to reintroduce some restrictions, but we believe this is much less likely than it has been in the past and we will do our utmost to ensure this does not happen.
5. Visits must be agreed at least 24 hours in advance (48 hours for weekend visits) by the Ward Manager or Centre Manager.
6. Visitors who have any of the known COVID-19 symptoms must stay at home and arrange to have a test to see if they have the virus and ensure they are symptom free before coming back to site.

7. Visitors on site who develop any of the known symptoms must report these without delay to a team member and must immediately go home and not return until symptom free or they receive a negative test.
8. All visits will be subject to “no notice” cancellation in the event of, for example, severe staffing shortages or a new “outbreak” of COVID-19 amongst patients or staff. In these cases, and wherever possible, the Ward Manager or Nurse in Charge will immediately contact all parents who are due to visit on that day to alert them of the cancellation of the visit and why.
9. Communications will be shared with all Patients and their parents advising them of the changes outlined in ‘Ellern Mede Services COVID-19 Action Plan v15’.

Should you have any further queries about visiting times please contact the Reception of the Site you are visiting.