

Covid-19 Visitor Information- Update- 25th October 2021

In order to protect you and our staff, we have taken the difficult to decision to limit footfall within the hospital, and have been observing social distancing on the Kensington Wing throughout the pandemic. We are pleased that following the improving situation in our community and government guidelines and uptake of the vaccination programme we have been able to lift some of the visiting restrictions.

For antenatal appointments including scans, one supporter can be present from the 12th April. We ask that they wait outside the ward environment; due to social distancing and limited space in the Kensington Wing reception, and come through when you are called for your appointment.

For antenatal inpatient and elective admissions, one supporter may be present. For labour admissions, we are now welcoming a second support person i.e. a doula. Your support people will be able to remain with you throughout labour and birth. One support person is permitted postnatally (non-interchangeable).

Throughout your care pathway we require:

- You and your support person perform a lateral flow antigen test 24 hours before your routine appointments and continue to complete these twice a week as recommended by NHS England. Your midwife or doctor will ask you to verbally confirm your test result on attendance at your appointment.
 - Your supporter to remain outside the ward until you have 'checked in' independently at reception. Your supporter will be invited in by our reception team when safe to do so. Additional seating has been provided outside the ward.
 - Temperature check/ face covering on arrival in hospital.
- Two support people are permitted for birth and will be lateral flow tested on arrival.
- Temperature check/health declaration form to be completed by your supporter for entry onto Kensington Wing.
- Face mask on at all times when staff members are in your room providing care.
 - Remain within your allocated room at all times.

We thank you for your continued support and understanding during this challenging time.