



**East Cheshire
Hospice**

Where people come to live

Welcome to the Inpatient Unit

Information for patients and those
important to them



East Cheshire Hospice provides palliative care for adults with advanced cancer and other life limiting illnesses. Our aim is to provide care and support to the 'whole person', not just to treat symptoms. We offer a wide range of services and facilities to support your individual needs.

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the kind, caring and never-ending attention you gave to my husband. Your professional dedication has to be applauded and I cannot express my gratitude to each and every one. You made a very emotional and traumatic time into something special for my family and myself.”

Inpatient Unit

Our inpatient unit has 15 beds, which includes seven side rooms with en-suite facilities. These rooms are allocated based on individual need. Although you may have been allocated a side room initially, this is not guaranteed for the duration of your stay.

Our nursing team is made up of a mixture of trained nurses, experienced nursing assistants and assistant practitioners. The nursing team works closely with the wider Hospice team to provide care, including doctors, advanced nurse practitioners, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, complementary therapists and a social work assessor link.

The Hospice team aims to offer a friendly, relaxing and calm environment. We encourage patients to dress as you would at home, in whatever you are comfortable in.

Length of stay

The length of stay in the Hospice is based on individual needs and the reason for admission. Our average inpatient stay is two weeks and we are unable to offer long term care. The three main reasons for admission are:

- **Symptom Management**

Aimed at relieving persistent, difficult symptoms, such as pain or nausea, that are not resolving within your own home or a hospital environment. This will be achieved through comprehensive medical and nursing assessment, incorporating psychological and spiritual support if required, together with a review of your medication and care. Usually you would need to stay between one and two weeks on the ward.

- **Optimisation**

We will help you to maintain or, where possible, restore as much independence as your condition and symptoms allow. Our physiotherapist team and occupational therapist will work with you to help you to achieve realistic goals and also help you adjust to the changes in your condition.

- **End of life care**

If your choice is to die in the Hospice, we will try to facilitate this wherever possible. End of life care is very individualised, and the Hospice team will tailor your care based on what is important to you at this time.

Sometimes, people who are very unwell when they come into the Hospice may stabilise for a while. Should you be unable to go home following an admission and need long term supportive care, the Hospice team will work with you and your family to find an appropriate alternative residence.

More information regarding discharge can be found on our website and in our leaflet “Preparing to leave East Cheshire Hospice”.

Visiting/Visitors

Family and loved ones, including children, friends, and professionals are welcome to visit you on the inpatient unit and we will support your wishes regarding visits.

Pets are generally welcome but please check with a member of our nursing team beforehand.

We have limited accommodation for relatives to stay overnight and can usually provide this for 2-3 people.

We would ask that visitors who have experienced vomiting, diarrhoea or flu symptoms within the previous 24 hours do not visit until they have been symptom free for 48 hours.

If you have any specific queries about visiting, please speak with a member of our team.

“I would like to thank everyone in the Hospice for all the most wonderful, loving care you have given to my sister as well as your never-ending support and kindness shown to family and friends. Your Hospice is certainly a very special place in the community which touches so many lives, giving comfort and dignity while in your care.”

The scope of treatment available

The doctors and nurses at East Cheshire Hospice have the skills needed to control difficult symptoms in patients with life limiting illness. Our goal is to achieve comfort and maintain your quality of life within the limits of what is realistically achievable.

The medical care we provide is therefore quite different from that available in a hospital, in that we do not undertake intensive technical procedures that require complicated monitoring. However, if you develop a serious but treatable problem and would benefit

from intensive medical treatment, we will discuss this with you and if necessary arrange for you to be admitted to a hospital.

Hospice staff are always happy to discuss your treatment and care with you, giving you opportunities to express your wishes and address your concerns. We appreciate that this is a difficult time for you and your family, and that you may find some things hard to talk about. We aim to be sensitive and supportive in all our conversations with you.

“Myself and my family will be forever grateful for your kindness and the way you cared for her; you brought light back into her life in those dark days.”

Facilities at East Cheshire Hospice

We try to go that extra mile to help our patients and their families, as we realise the importance of being close and comfortable together.

- **Relatives Lounge**

There is a small relatives lounge in the inpatient unit, which includes a kitchenette where you are free to make a drink at your own convenience. There is also a fridge where you can store your own foods.

- **Sitting Room**

We have a patient and family lounge which is shared by all our patients where you are welcome to sit with your loved one and watch television or chat. You can also enjoy your meal together in the dining area.

- **Gardens**

We have beautiful gardens, with many interesting flowers and features, please feel free to spend time outside exploring them.

- **Quiet Room and Chapel**

Whatever your religious view, you are welcome to spend time in these peaceful spaces for quiet reflection as well as a prayer.

- **Meals**

Relatives/friends can purchase meals for a small cost here at East Cheshire Hospice - please speak with staff for more information.

SMOKING

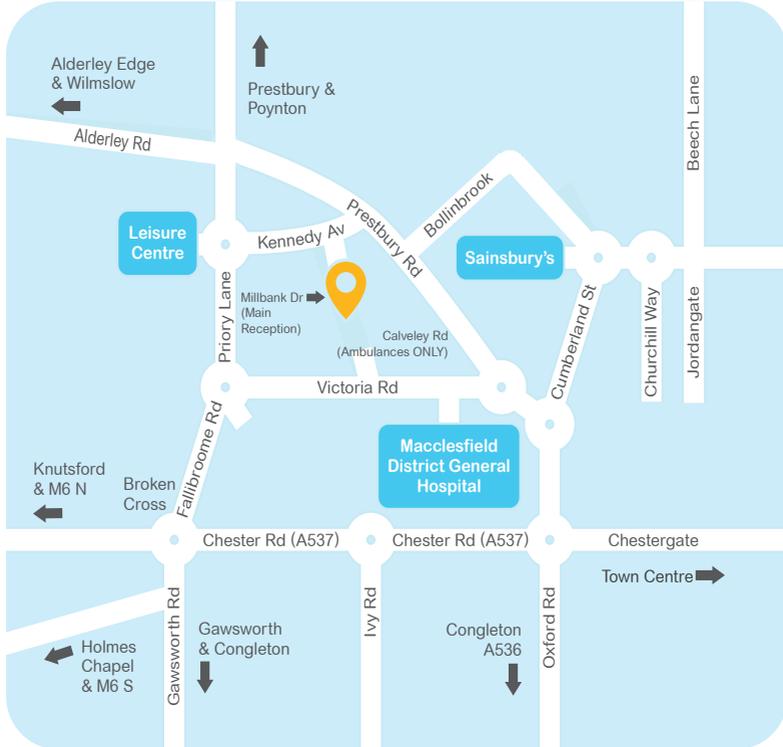
Please note that the Hospice is a non-smoking site, including e-cigarettes. Should you wish to smoke please speak to a member of staff.





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