



**Blackpool Teaching  
Hospitals**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# **Spiritual Religious & Pastoral Care**

**Women and Children's Unit  
Chaplaincy Services  
Patient & Family Information Leaflet**



## A word of introduction

Welcome to Blackpool Victoria Hospital and the care of our dedicated team of healthcare professionals.

We recognise that being a patient or having a loved one in hospital can be stressful and unsettling: the normal routines of life are disrupted while the wait for healing can seem unending. At times like this, it is easy to feel anxious and isolated.

According to NHS England, talking about how you feel can help support your mental health which in turn can aid recovery. (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/free-therapy-or-counselling/>) But it isn't always easy to talk to those closest to us.

As part of the care available to you today, the Women and Children's Unit has its own Chaplain who offers pastoral, spiritual and religious support to those who need it. So, please don't suffer in silence. What matters to you, matters to us. Let's talk.

# The Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Department

Our Chaplain is a member of the Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Department at Blackpool Victoria Hospital. The Department offers pastoral, spiritual and religious care to the Women and Children's Unit 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If our own Chaplain is unavailable, another Chaplain will always be found.

The Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Department is made up of staff and volunteers from across faith and community groups in Blackpool. Their approach is warm, open, inclusive and patient-led. Those who ask to be referred to Chaplaincy can be assured they will be met with gentleness and respect, and that the support offered will be tailored to that individual's expressed needs and personal circumstances.

*Some patients and their families may also find it helpful to know that the Department works in close association with Trinity Hospice and Brian House Children's Hospice and can ensure that Chaplaincy care continues across sites.*

# The Women and Children's Unit Chaplain

Our Chaplain is available to patients, families and staff, and offers:

- A warm welcome
- A safe place to talk
- A listening ear
- Companionship on the journey
- Help finding strength in uncertainty
- Prayer for you and those you love
- Access to religious resources
- Help contacting faith or philosophically-based organisations and community groups
- Support arranging services
- Comfort for the bereaved

## Chaplaincy is here to help

If you would like a visit from the Chaplain, please ask a member of staff to get in touch with the Chaplaincy Department.



## Space and time to reflect

The Chapel at Blackpool Victoria Hospital is in Area 3 on the ground floor just off the main corridor. There is a prayer room next to the Chapel. Another prayer room, with ritual washing facilities, is available on the ground floor of the Cardiac Unit, Area 12. When not being used for religious services, these rooms are always open and available to patients, families, visitors and staff, for quiet reflection.

### Religious services

*Mondays* – Mass (Catholic) at 4pm

*Wednesdays* – Holy Communion (Church of England) at 12pm

*Fridays* – Jumma Prayers (Muslim) at around 1:15pm

*Sundays* – A Chaplain is available to visit the bedside should communion or prayer be requested.

*Seasonal* – Please look out for adverts around the Hospital or contact the Chaplaincy Department for more information.

Other available services on request might include the sacrament of the sick, anointing, prayers around dying and death, services of remembrance, thanksgiving or blessing.

## Useful contact details

For referrals or more information, please contact the Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Department:

You can do this by:

- Contacting ward staff
- Telephoning our direct lines:  
**(01253) 953876 / 956299**
- Or emailing the Hospital website:  
**bfwh.chaplaincy@nhs.net**
- If urgent, please call the hospital switchboard at **(01253) 300000**

If you have any comments or feedback about the Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Department, please contact the Patient Relations Department.

You can do this by:

- Telephoning: **(01253) 955589**
- Emailing: **bfwh.patientexperience@nhs.net**
- Writing to: **The Patient Relations Department, Blackpool Victoria Hospital, Whinney Heys Road, Blackpool, FY3 8NR**

Further information is also available on the hospital website: **www.bfwh.nhs.uk**

If you'd like a large print, audio, Braille or a translated version of this leaflet then please call: **01253 955520**

Our Four Values:



People Centred  
Compassion

Positive  
Excellence

**NHS**  
Blackpool Teaching  
Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

Author: [Rev. Helen Houston](#)  
Approved by: [Rev. Ian Baxter](#)  
Date of Publication: [04/05/2020](#)

Reference No: [PL/1257 \(v1\)](#)  
Review Date: [01/05/2023](#)