

NHS Lothian: Coronavirus and Visiting Hospitals – FAQs

We understand that the public may have questions in relation to this. This is why we have prepared some FAQs.

Why can't I visit?

Social distancing is really important to try and limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). Last night new measures were introduced across the UK, urging people to stay at home. We need to 'shield' certain people who are at higher risk than others and this includes those who are already unwell.

By suspending visiting, we hope to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) helping to protect your loved ones and our staff.

Can I get personal items like clothes, nightclothes, toiletries to my loved one?

We understand that having personal items such as clothes and your own toiletries if you are in hospital is really important. If relatives need to bring personal items to their loved ones, they can still do this, but are expected to leave the items with the ward staff and not enter the ward.

If I want to give my loved one a phone or an iPad to communicate with me can I hand this in?

Yes, but like handing in clothes or toiletries you will be expected to leave the items with the ward staff and not enter the ward.

What if my child is in an adult ward, can I visit them?

If your child (up to the age of 18) happens to be in an adult ward, the nurse in charge will be able to advise when to visit and any constraints that may be placed around the visit. We would remind families, that if they have any symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) such as a high temperature and/or a new persistent cough, they should remain at home.

My partner is due to give birth, will I still be able to attend?

At present, birthing partners are permitted to attend, however we ask that this is limited to just one person. The midwife in charge will be able to advise of any restraints that may be placed around the visit. We would remind birthing partners, that if they have any symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) such as a high temperature and/or a new persistent cough, they should remain at home.