

Potential impact on other services - accident and emergency

When a child is unwell the first point of contact for a parent with a sick child should always be the child's GP. They can advise where the child should be treated. If a child needs medical attention when the GP surgery is closed, parents should contact NHS 111 who will refer the child to the most appropriate place for their care.

A protocol setting out the arrangements for any child who comes into accident and emergency will be in place.



Key points

- Arrangements for children with major injuries remains unchanged – the ambulance by-passes the Friarage Hospital and goes straight to The James Cook University Hospital.
- Arrangements for children with minor injuries (the vast majority of the 6,000 children who attend A & E every year) remain unchanged and children will still go to the Friarage Hospital.

For all other children:

- The GP will determine where child would be best seen. This could include the paediatric short-stay assessment unit at the Friarage (after discussion with a paediatrician) up to 7pm, the paediatric day unit or children's ward at The James Cook University Hospital or, very exceptionally, accident and emergency at James Cook (if resuscitation is required).
- If a child needs to be admitted to hospital, or assessed, after 7pm, they will be directed to The James Cook University Hospital or Darlington Memorial Hospital.
- If a child is brought to the Friarage Hospital's accident and emergency department with an illness they will be triaged (assessed) and then seen in the appropriate care setting which will be:
 - The James Cook University Hospital (on-call paediatric team)
 - GP (making an appointment for that day)
 - Out-of-hours GP
- Children attending accident and emergency at the Friarage who give any cause for concern will receive supportive treatment until an appropriate transfer is arranged.

This factsheet has been produced as part of the public consultation on our proposal for maternity and children's services at the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton.