

Chorley Emergency Department operational hours

We would like to take this opportunity to update you that Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust are now in a position to safely return to the pre-covid opening hours of the Emergency Department at Chorley and South Ribble Hospital.

We have previously committed to working towards the reinstatement of a 12-hour operating model, as seen before the response to the pandemic. In November 2020 we were able to reopen the Department on an 8-hour basis and are pleased to be able to confirm that from 15 March 2021, the Emergency Department at Chorley and South Ribble Hospital will be operational on a 12-hour basis, accepting adult patients 8am – 8pm.

Outside of these hours adults and children will continue to have access to the 24/7 Urgent Care Centre at Chorley, however a child or young person (under 18 years of age) needing A&E services will be taken to Royal Preston Hospital to ensure that they get the best care in the right place. Additionally, any pregnant women needing A&E services will also be taken to Preston for the same reason.

Patients suffering complex fractures or major trauma injuries will also be treated at the Royal Preston. As a major trauma centre, with clinicians who are highly trained and experienced in treating complex broken bones and/or life-threatening injuries, the Royal Preston Hospital is the most appropriate place for this type of care.

The move to a 12-hour operating model is possible because of many months of hard work by colleagues across the Trust, particularly the Emergency Department team who have all gone above and beyond during this pandemic. The support of organisations from across the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System has also been key to developing these plans and we extend our thanks to everyone involved.

The Trust, CCGs and other local system partners will continue to support patients to access the most appropriate service for their needs.