Frequently asked questions

How do I get referred?

• Any health and social care professionals (for example GPs, social workers, district nurses) who know the patient can make a referral.

• Family members can also make a referral.
• Patients can self-refer too.

• For more information see our referral page:
https://www.stjh.org.uk/make-a-referral/how-to-make-a-referral

Will I have a side room/private room?
We do have some side rooms available but we can’t guarantee one.

Where will I be admitted?
Your stay will be on one of our hospice wards, St Michaels or Lourdes. You will be on a ward with other patients using the hospice, and this is likely to include patients admitted for end of life care.

Do you offer carer respite?
We do now offer carer respite to patients who have a specialist palliative care need. This usually means that the person is already known to a specialist palliative care service, for example a palliative care community team. We will discuss and consider all referrals, so please contact us if you are unsure. We may also be able to help with information about other respite services.

How long is an admission?
Most people come for two weeks. Shorter stays of one week are possible.

What can I do during a stay?
There are several services and activities available during your stay to support any goals or interests you may have. These include Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietician, Speech and Language Therapist, Day Hospice, Complementary Therapy, Welfare and Benefits advisor, Psychological Therapists and Chaplaincy.
There are often lots of activities happening around the hospice which you can join in with, these are advertised in the hub.

Before you are offered a stay, a member of the team will talk to you about why you would like to come to St Josephs. This is a good time to discuss
the kinds of services or activities you would like to access during your admission. When you are admitted, referrals will be sent to all the relevant teams who will then come to meet you.

How long is the wait for a bed?
As the stays are planned in advance, we usually offer a bed in 2-3 months. We do sometimes have beds available at short notice, for example if we have a cancellation.
If you have a particular date you would like to be admitted, please contact us as soon as possible.

How often can I come in?
We offer a maximum of four stays a year. We will discuss this with you when you first come in.

What should I bring with me?
When you are offered a date, we will let you know what to bring.