

# Darent Valley Hospital

## Car parking

### Parking

- Car Parking
- Cycle parking
- Disabled parking

Parking spaces at the hospital are limited. To avoid waiting for a space to become available, we recommend that you consider visiting the hospital via public transport or taxi whenever possible.

Fees - 0-1 hour = £1.50, 1-2 hours = £2.50, 2-3 hours = £3, 3-4 hours = £4 4-6 hours = £8, 6-24 hours = £10, weekly £32. Collect ticket at entry barrier and keep with you. Before leaving take ticket to payment machine located near the main entrance.

Minimum tariff applies for blue badge holders.

### Disabled drivers

Disabled drivers with valid blue badges park for minimum tariff at the hospital. There is one disabled public car park (car park 2) which has spaces for designated disabled users only. If you park in this car park you will need to purchase a £1.50 ticket from the machine and display this next to your blue badge on your dashboard. **This car park is regularly checked to ensure that those parking there are entitled to do so.** *If you park in car parks 1, 3 or 4 and are a disabled badge holder we advise that you leave your time clocks displayed and take your picture badge with you (as well as the parking ticket). On leaving the hospital take your ticket and blue badge to the car parking office (parking shop) located in the main car park. From all main public car parks there is disabled access with sloped kerbs.*

### Wheelchair access

All pedestrian entrances at Darent Valley Hospital are suitable for wheelchairs. There are disabled toilets in key locations around the hospital, including the main reception area. Hospital wheelchairs are available to use, they can be collected from the main entrance, a refundable £1 coin is required to use them.

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## Public Transport

### Patient transport

Ambulance transport can only be provided for patients who have a **medical need** and who **cannot travel by any other means**. Ambulance staff can care for patients during the journey to and from hospital. A parent or responsible adult should accompany children. If there is a medical need a friend or relative may escort the patient the ambulance, but only with the authorisation of a doctor.

## **Accessible public transport**

Darent Valley Hospital is served by a number of bus routes. Low-floor, wheelchair accessible buses run on the routes serving the hospital.

### **By bus:**

The buses that stop in the hospital grounds are as follows:

- Fastrack 'B', running from Temple Hill to Gravesend – for more details (including bus times) please see [Fastrack](#).
- 422 from East Hill to Gravesend. For times visit [422 bus route](#) (Thursdays only)
- 423, running from Swanley to New Ash Green, via Dartford; For information and bus times visit [423](#).
- 428, running from Erith to Bluewater, via Dartford; For times visit [428](#).
- 429, running from Swanley to Bluewater, via Joyden's Wood, Keyton Cross, Wilmington and Dartford (NB The 429 only stops at the hospital on Sundays. This service is operated by Go-Coach – see [www.go-coach.co.uk](http://www.go-coach.co.uk))
- 433, running from New Ash Green to Bluewater;
- 477, running from Orpington to Bluewater via Swanley and Dartford; For information and bus times, visit [477](#).
- 228, running from Tonbridge Station to Bluewater via Shipbourne, Ightham, Borough Green, Wrotham, West Kingsdown, Farningham, Sutton at Hone, and Darenth (N.B. The 228 only operates on Tuesdays in school term time. This service is operated by Red Route Buses Ltd – see [www.redroutebuses.co.uk](http://www.redroutebuses.co.uk)).

The majority of the buses are managed by Arriva For information please go to [www.arrivabus.co.uk](http://www.arrivabus.co.uk). Alternatively, go to [www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk](http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk) or call 0871 200 22 33.

### **By cycle:**

Cycle racks are available outside the main hospital entrance and by the Philip Farrant Education Centre.

### **By rail:**

The nearest train station is Dartford. All the buses services listed stop at either the station or Holmes Garden – just a short walk from the station. Taxis are available from Dartford Train Station and for return journeys payphones in the hospital foyer have a button that links free to a local taxi firm. Greenhithe station is nearby and a Fastrack bus service is available. For further rail information contact National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950 or visit their website at <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk>.

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# Facilities

## Accessibility

- Disabled parking
- Disabled WC
- Induction loop
- Signing service available
- Wheelchair access
- Step free access

The hospital is accessible and step free from the disabled car park.

## Accommodation

- Access to TV
- Internet access
- Public telephone
- Family accommodation
- Private rooms only
- Single sex accommodation only

Darent Valley Hospital is a contemporary hospital that provides care for patients in modern and comfortable ward surroundings.

Darent Valley Hospital has predominately single sex bays/wards and currently has a programme in place to delivery this within the A&E, observation ward and coronary care.

## Counselling and Support

- Bereavement support
- Translation services

DVH offers counselling and support to both patients and relatives. The hospital have a bereavement /quiet room which offers a tranquil setting for those who require quiet and privacy.

## Faith services

- Prayer area
- On-site chapel

The Multi-Faith Prayer Room is on Level 1 and open 24 hours a day for prayer and reflection.

The prayer room and the adjoining counselling room has been designed to be a place of refuge from the clinical environment where people can gather strength from prayer or being still. The prayer room itself can be converted from a Christian chapel to a multi-faith space by drawing screens across the cross.

### **Food and amenities on-site**

- Cafe
- Patient library
- Pharmacy
- Shop

There are a variety of shops located in the main foyer of the hospital and also on Level One.

Wheelchairs are available for transporting patients from the main entrances to the wards.