

Welcome to Staffordshire University

Health Care in the UK



National Health Service—What is it?

The National Health Service (NHS) is how healthcare is provided in the United Kingdom. It is government funded so is free at the point of use.

Healthcare is paid for through Taxation. If you are an international visitor, it is paid for through the NHS Health Surcharge. This is paid for with your Visa application.

If you are coming from an EU Country or one of the following: Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein. You may use the European Health Card. (This may expire on the 31st December 2020 due to current EU Brexit Deal).

If you are unsure as to what you need, the UK Council for International Student Affairs has a good guide:

<https://bit.ly/3f4pMOh>



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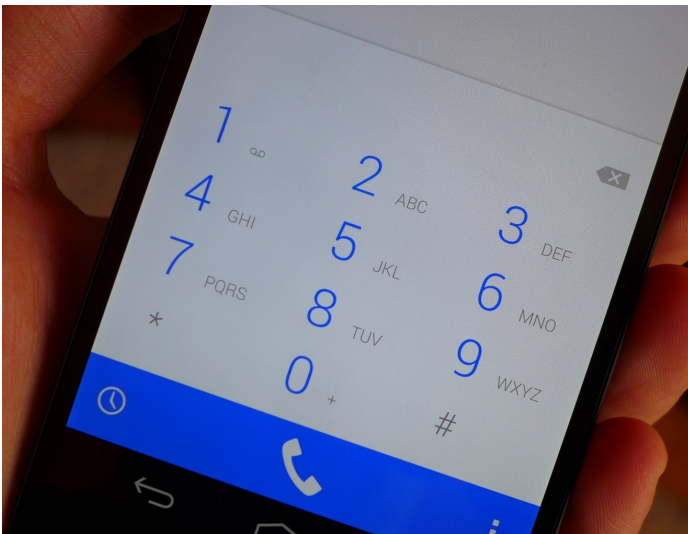
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Emergency Care (Accident and Emergency)



The Emergency Number in the UK is: 999

Emergency – Dial 999 and ask for Ambulance. Calls to 999 are free and will work from an international phone too. Make sure it is a genuine emergency.

Non-Emergency – Dial 111, this is for things where it is not a life threatening emergency. You answer questions about your symptoms by speaking to a fully trained adviser on the phone. You can ask for a translator on this service.

General Health Care in the UK is free however there is a charge to prescriptions, dental care and eye care. These charges are not huge if you get them through the NHS.



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Your Local Doctor (GP)



Staffordshire University has its own on-campus GP based in Trent Building (building 23).

What is a GP? A GP is General Practitioner and they are your main point of call for if you are sick or need non-urgent care. You have to register with them when you arrive so make sure you have all your paperwork in check. If you don't register with the GP the NHS may not be able to acquire your medical records making it harder to diagnose you.

Registration is easy and their website can be found here:

www.harleystreetmedicalpractice.org.uk/



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Other Key Services the NHS Provide



The NHS Don't just provide GPs and Accident/Emergency!

The NHS also provides the following services:

- Walk in Centre
- Standard Hospital Care/Operations
- Ambulance Service
- Dental Care (This actually costs money but through the NHS is discounted)
- Optician – Eye Care (Like dental care costs money but is discounted through the NHS)
- Various Mental Health Services

Basically any medical need in this country is provided by the NHS.





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NHS is Free at the Point of Use

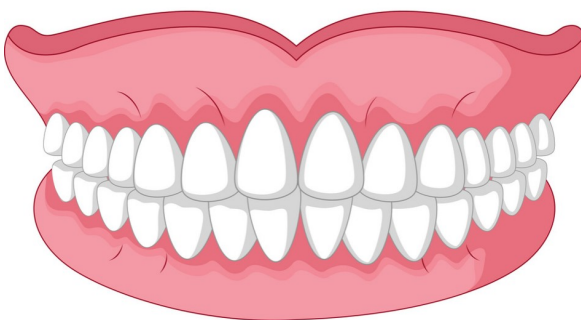
It is important to note that the NHS is free at the point of use. You are only charged for prescriptions, Dental Care and Eye Care.

To access the NHS you will need to pay the NHS Surcharge on your Visa. For students from the EU, EEA and Switzerland you can use your EU Health Card until at least the 31st of December (Subject to UK/EU Brexit Deal)

There are some extra charges to NHS Services. Prescriptions for medicines cost around £9. Full details on the NHS Website by [clicking here](#).

Dental Care also has a cost. Price can vary depending on treatment and not all dentist accept new NHS patients. Check on the NHS Website by [clicking here](#).

Eye Care is also has a cost and like dental care it depends on the treatment. You may also be entitled to a free eye test. Check on the NHS website by [clicking here](#).



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Covid-19 Advise

The UK has a strict quarantine policy on anyone who has symptoms of Coronavirus (Covid-19).

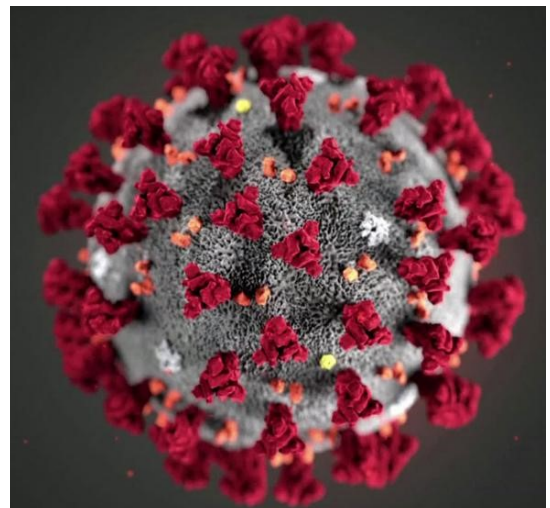
When you are living here in the UK and you develop one or any of the following symptoms (continuous Cough, Fever or Loss of Taste/Smell you must get a Test. This can be booked for FREE! online via the government website. www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

If you test Positive, you will be contacted by the NHS Track and Trace team. They will ask you to tell them your recent contacts. They won't ask for money.

You may also be contacted by the NHS Track and Trace team, if you have been near someone who has tested positive. They won't ask for money they will simply ask you to self-isolate for 14 days.



Test and Trace



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