

New NHS patient/Irregular attendee policy

The following applies to patients who enquire to be seen at our practice on the NHS.

Our practice has an NHS contract to provide dental services to patients who are exempt from charges only (see <u>https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/dentists/who-is-entitled-to-free-nhs-dental-treatment-in-england/</u>) for more information on this.

Due to a lack of capacity and the extreme backlog that has been created by the COVID-19 outbreak, we are currently unable to see any new NHS patients and patients who have not attended our practice for more than 4 years. We are currently not operating a waiting list for new NHS patients and NHS patients that have not attended our practice for more than 4 years.

We are doing all that we can to help as many patients as possible and this is on the basis that our practice cannot meet demand due to a lack of capacity and a backlog of patients who regularly attend and keep their appointments.