




How do you get a Bridging Bed?

The Hospital Social Worker will carry out an assessment with you to look at what you need to help you to return home.

The outcome of your assessment may say that you are medically fit to return home and do not need to remain in hospital. However, in order for you to go home safely you may need further support such as a package of care, new equipment, rehabilitation support or perhaps just a few more days to build your confidence.

In these situations the Hospital Social Worker will offer you an opportunity to stay in one of Rectory Field's Bridging Beds for a short time until these things are in place. As these beds are an extension of the hospital your care during this time will be free of charge.

Your social worker in the community will meet with you in Rectory Field and make sure that all is in place before you are finally ready to go home or to move on to a permanent placement elsewhere.



Bridging Beds

Based at

Rectory Field

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Bridging Beds

Rectory Field Support Service



Stepping Down

and

Moving On

Innovative Solutions from
WHSC

What are Bridging Beds?

Bridging Beds at Rectory Field are being offered to people who need extra support, on a temporary basis, to help them make the move from hospital care to home, or to a permanent residential placement elsewhere.

The service opened in March 2017 with the aim of ensuring that people are supported in the most appropriate setting by providing flexible, responsive, 24/7 care/support options in the community as an alternative option to hospital.

Bridging Beds is a separate service from Rectory Field Residential Home and is **not a permanent option**. People who use Bridging Beds will be given help and support to improve their health and well-being so that they can move out of the service to their permanent home.

Would a Bridging Bed meet your needs?

Not everyone will be suitable for a Bridging Bed so we have criteria that must be met.

In order to get a Bridging Bed you must:

- Be able to move around from place to place, either on your own or with help from one or two people
- Be medically stable
- Have no nursing needs, other than those that can be met by the district nurse, or other conditions that can be supported in a residential environment e.g. Rapid Response or Specialist Nursing
- Not have palliative or end of life care needs
- Be able to have your care needs met in the Rectory Fields environment (as outlined by RQIA)

What we offer

At Bridging Beds we aim to tailor our care to the needs of each individual. We have well trained, friendly and supportive staff that will provide:

- Support while you wait for your care package or equipment to become available
- Rehabilitation care to help you become as independent as possible before you move on
- Short term support to help you decide on the best placement to meet your needs, or
- Support to regain your confidence for going back home



How long will you stay?

The Bridging beds are short term stay beds and whilst everyone's needs are different, some people will recover more quickly than others. Since the service opened in March 2017 the majority of people who have stayed in Rectory Field have returned home or moved to the right placement within three weeks.

