Spiritual Care in Care Homes



For people of all human spiritualities, faiths and cultures

Information for residents, families, staff and volunteers

The leaflet is produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells in association with Somerset Healthcare Chaplains and the End of Life Programme Board of the Somerset NHS Clinical Commissioning Group.

What is Spiritual Care?

Spiritual care is about what gives meaning to our lives and about the things and people who are important to us. It includes love, hope, forgiveness, trust and all kinds of emotional strength. We are all different in how we seek and fulfil this in our lives. For some people it could be being with friends and family, taking time in the presence of nature, or engaging in hobbies or work. For some it can include belief in a higher being like God; and it can involve prayer and meditation.

As spiritual beings we may draw strength day by day from a range of people and activities, and through them find our meaning in life. These are just a few examples:



Who is Spiritual Care For?

Spiritual Care can be available for everyone in the care home, residents, families, staff and volunteers. The needs of each person are different and those who offer spiritual care will listen carefully to individuals. Some people may welcome a gentle chat or a listening ear, some may welcome the offer of prayer. Whatever your connection with the Care Home, spiritual care can be offered to you.



Who to Contact?

The best person to contact in the first instance is the care home manager or another member of staff. They will be able to arrange for a chaplain or other appropriate person to be in touch with you. If you would like they can also tell you about arrangements for services like Holy Communion or offer a special blessing.

If you have any other questions, you are welcome to contact:

Mike Haslam Chaplaincy Adviser, Diocese of Bath and Wells T: 01749 685121 E: chaplaincy.adviser@bathwells.anglican.org

Ann Fulton Spiritual Care Coordinator, St Margaret's Hospice E: ann.fulton@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk