

Crisis care when you need us most

Our Acute and PICU ward teams are here to help you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you have a patient with urgent psychiatric needs you can speak to someone directly on one of our six crisis wards based across Northampton and Essex.

Male

Acute

Male

PICU

Female

PICU



Transforming lives together

For over 10 years, our well-established PICU services for men and women in Northampton and Essex have been trusted for their provision of high quality psychiatric intensive care in clinically safe and supportive environments. To enhance our crisis provision we now also have acute male admission wards in Essex and Northampton.

Our Acute and PICU patients are supported by a specialist ward based MDT including medical and nursing staff, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and occupational therapists. Their joint aim is to reduce a person's risk, stabilise their behaviour and support them with a return to home or a more appropriate community setting as soon as possible.

Male Acute wards - Benfleet and Naseby

Based in Essex and Northampton our new acute wards offer short periods of rapid assessment, intensive treatment and stabilisation within a specialist rehabilitation setting. Typically, male patients present with behaviour that is less challenging than those who require a Psychiatric Intensive Care (PICU) setting.

Our aim is to support patients to overcome acute phases of mental health crisis before working with local teams to enable people to discharge to less restrictive environments in their local community as quickly as possible.

"The most interesting part of the work is the patients that we support. People come to us who are very fragile and emotionally unwell and over a short period of time you can see them transform."

William Callaghan , Audley ward Nurse Manager



Our Environments

Our wards have been designed specifically around people with complex mental health needs. The service includes both wheelchair and disabled access bathrooms. All of our wards have central living and dining areas, individual bedrooms with en-suite facilities and large enclosed courtyards and gardens.

Northampton

Naseby (Male)

Acute



Naseby day area

Bayley (Male)

PICU



Northampton outdoor gym

Heygate (Male)

PICU



A bedroom on Heygate PICU

Essex

Benfleet (Male)

Acute



Benfleet lounge

Audley (Male)

PICU



Conservatory meeting room

Frinton (Female)

PICU



Frinton lounge

An overview of our Acute and PICU admissions criteria

Our Acute service admission criteria

We admit men:

- ✓ aged 18-65 years
- ✓ suffering from a mental health issue including; Schizophrenia, drug induced psychosis, Bi-polar affective disorder and Schizoaffective disorder
- ✓ who are at potential risk of harming themselves or others
- ✓ who have been detained under the Mental Health Act 1983 (as amended in 2007), as well as informal patients (Naseby only).

These criteria are a guide for assessing suitability.

Each patient will be individually assessed by our dedicated team. This ward will not be appropriate for patients with a history of Dementia, Learning Disabilities or Personality Disorders.

Our PICU services admission criteria

We admit men and women:

- ✓ aged 18-65 years
- ✓ suffering from an acute mental illness, a relapse of an enduring mental illness or an exacerbation of a chronic mental illness
- ✓ who may be displaying behaviours that challenge as a result of a mental illness
- ✓ who demonstrate significant risk, including aggression to self and others, absconding and / or vulnerability
- ✓ who require relatively short-term intensive care in a safe environment
- ✓ who have been detained under the Mental Health Act 1983 (as amended in 2007).

These criteria are a guide for assessing suitability.

Each patient will be individually assessed by our dedicated team, relevant information will be gathered and a decision will usually be made within one hour. No formal assessment is required at the point of admission, however, patients will be examined as soon as appropriate.

A patient can transfer between our male PICUs and our acute wards should their needs change whilst they are with us.

"My care has been brilliant I can now maintain my composure and manage my stress."

Male PICU patient (Audley)



Engaging in an art workshop

Image of our
fruit orchard at
St Andrew's,
Northampton

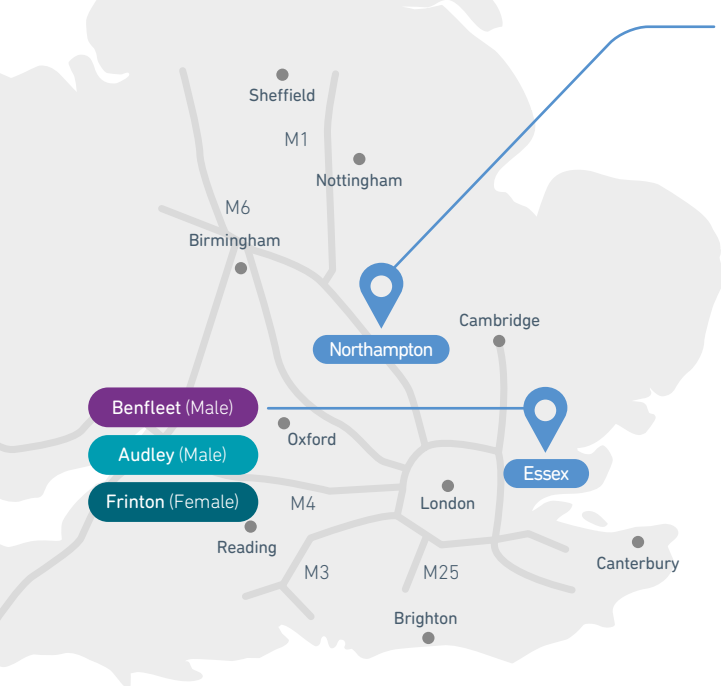
Why choose St Andrew's?

- ✓ We make it a priority to actively engage with a patient's home area co-ordinators.
- ✓ Our specialist MDT work closely with patients' families and both our Northampton and Essex PICU services have in-house social work teams.
- ✓ We place a key focus on the relational security of our patients.
- ✓ All PICU wards are members of NAPICU, and adhere to NAPICU minimum standards and their admissions criteria.
- ✓ Our extensive on-site multi-disciplinary team mean that Acute and PICU patients have access to a wide breadth of therapeutic interventions and support.
- ✓ Ward environments with designated spaces are an integral part of our therapeutic approach.

Therapeutic environments on our Acute and PICU wards include:

- ✓ Sensory/Chill-out rooms to support patients with increased arousal levels and help them develop self-regulatory sensory strategies.
- ✓ Therapy gardens helping to promote pride and personal achievement and offering opportunities to engage in activities that encourage positive connections within a physical and social environment.
- ✓ A wide variety of sports facilities and sessions combatting physical health issues, promoting positive emotional regulation and improving self esteem.

Getting in touch



Naseby (Male)

Bayley (Male)

Heygate (Male)

Benfleet (Male)

Audley (Male)

Frinton (Female)

Northampton

Essex

We've listened to your feedback

You can now make a PICU or ACUTE enquiry/referral across any of our six wards by sending an email to our central inbox, or ringing the referral line:

✉ sah.picuacute@nhs.net

☎ 0800 434 6690

💻 stah.org/PICU

Did you know we also have a Neuro Rapid Response Service?

As part of our Neurobehavioral services, we also offer a rapid review of patients with an ABI or PNC whose behavioural presentation or cognitive function has deteriorated, and who require urgent stabilisation and intensive therapy in a safe environment.

Our programmes deliver treatment to support a return to community once the crisis period has subsided, and also offers a service for patients requiring a more extensive care package.

To make a referral call 01604 616 000 and ask for Lowther Dementia Hub

Our bed availability

Our bed availability is updated every week day, please visit stah.org/picu for the latest update. If you would like to receive our daily PICU bed availability email, please contact us at update@stah.org

Registered Charity Number 1104951

3_0923 Individuals pictured are models and are used for illustrative purposes only.

