

Your baby's funeral

Bereavement Services

Information for families

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**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

Introduction

The loss of a baby is one of the hardest things anyone has to face. So when your baby dies you need as much help, support and advice as possible. This leaflet explains the choices available as you decide on your baby's final resting place.

Your baby's funeral can be arranged in 1 of 2 ways:

- **Privately arranged funeral**
- **Hospital arranged funeral**

Privately arranged funeral

If you choose this option you will need to contact a funeral director who will look after the necessary arrangements. They will support, guide and help you towards making the right decision. This means you will have exactly the type of funeral you want for your baby.

You can choose whether your baby is to be buried or cremated. You can select where this will take place. You can choose the type of service or ceremony you would like.

A private burial will mean your baby has their own grave and you can mark the grave and / or erect a memorial stone, in line with the cemetery rules (regulations). Costs vary according to the type of funeral you choose but are generally less than for an adult funeral. Your funeral director will guide you on the cost of the funeral. If you have a family grave you also have the choice of burying your baby there. This information will be thoroughly explained to you by your funeral director to help you and your family to come to a decision.

Despite every effort being made to recover ashes following a cremation, on vary rare occasions (particularly with a cremation following an early pregnancy loss) there may be no recoverable ashes.

Hospital arranged funeral

If you choose this option the hospital will arrange your baby's funeral. The hospital asks the trust's funeral director to make arrangements on your behalf. You can choose for the hospital to arrange a burial or cremation.

A shared funeral takes place at Gilroes Crematorium and Cemetery, on Tuesday mornings at 10am, in the East Chapel. There may be up to 4 caskets at the funeral. You can choose if you would like to attend, and can also invite a few of your family or friends if you wish.

funeral is led by a member of the hospital's multi-faith Chaplaincy (for example they could be a Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or non-religious chaplain). The service taken has no religious content, but allows time for reflection and the opportunity for silent prays.

You can ask Bereavement Services to see a copy of the words used at the funeral. If you have opted for the hospital to arrange the funeral, but do not wish your baby to be in the Chapel during the funeral, this can be arranged.

You or a member of your family will be given the opportunity to carry your baby's casket into the chapel. You do not have to do this if you do not want to. The service will last about 15 minutes.

For those babies who are being buried, their caskets will be taken to the graveside.

Non-religious words of committal will then be said. Your baby's casket will not be uncovered again.

For those babies that are being cremated, their coffins will remain at the front of the Chapel and the curtains will be closed.

For shared grave:

The cemetery staff will place your baby's casket side by side into a shared grave. The shared grave can have 16 babies' caskets in total. Leicester City Council provide a permanent memorial plaque for your baby's grave. Cemetery rules (regulations) state that only unwrapped cut flowers may be placed on the grave. Permanent fixtures, such as Memorial stones, fences, kerbs, surrounds, flowerpots, toys, solar lights and windmills are not permitted and will be removed without further notice.

For private grave:

The cemetery staff will place your baby in their own grave.

There will be a charge for the burial plot if you live out of the city of Leicester. A local funeral director would be able to support non-city residents and may be able to get you a plot with limited or no cost to you.

Permanent fixtures such as memorial stones are allowed.

If you wish to have a memorial stone you will need to appoint a funeral director or stone mason to guide you on what can be placed on the grave. There will be a cost for this service, which will not be funded by the hospital.

For hospital cremation:

If you choose cremation we will look after your baby's ashes for 6 months after the date of the funeral, during which time you are welcome to arrange with us to collect them. If you do not collect them during that time they will be scattered at Gilroes Cemetery. If you do not wish to have the ashes returned, we can arrange for them to be scattered at Gilroes within their gardens of remembrance.

Leicester City Council and the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust provide this service.



If you choose a hospital funeral for your baby you will need to liaise with Bereavement Services to discuss the funeral arrangements.

If you need any further information, help or advice, please do not hesitate to contact us.

University Hospitals of Leicester Bereavement Services:

0116 258 7277

Thursdays from 8:30am till 3:00pm

Or if you need to speak to the team out of these times, the office is open Monday to Friday 8:30am until 4:30pm.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل

જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।
Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

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