

A photograph of a dentist in a white coat and blue gloves examining a patient's teeth with dental instruments. The patient is a young woman with long brown hair, reclined in a dental chair. The image is framed by blue geometric shapes.

# Oral Surgery, Dentistry/Orthodontics & Maxillofacial Surgery

First Outpatient Appointment



## Guidance for patients

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the NHS ability to provide routine elective services. We recognise that patients are waiting longer than we would all like and it is not always possible to identify when treatment will take place.

Referral to treatment waiting times are available at:

[Dental – Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust – My Planned Care NHS](#)

### The Maxillofacial Department

Your first visit to the Maxillofacial Department will be for a consultation. We may need you to have an x-ray to help decide on a treatment plan. Once you've been examined and surgery has been agreed as an appropriate method of treatment, a decision will be made regarding local or general anaesthetic. If the surgery is to be carried out under local anaesthetic, the procedure may be able to be done in the department at a separate appointment. If you require general anaesthetic, the surgery will take place either in the Day Surgery Unit at Harrogate District Hospital or at York Hospital, depending on its complexity or whether you require an overnight stay.

Our treatments range from complex surgical procedures for patients with oral cancers, facial skin cancers, facial deformities and salivary gland disease, to the management of impacted and buried teeth and roots.

The Maxillofacial team is a consultant-led team based in York. Visiting consultants carry out services at Harrogate District Hospital throughout the week.

Our team includes:

- Maxillofacial Surgery: Mr Robert Wotherspoon on Wednesday afternoons
- Maxillofacial Surgery: Mr Aidan Adams on Mondays (all day) and alternate Tuesdays
- Associate Specialist: Ms Rosalind Southee on Mondays (all day)
- Specialty Doctor: Mr Alastair Campbell in Harrogate on Mondays to Thursdays
- Specialty Dentist: Mr Danny Thompson on Wednesdays

We offer a wide range of services to investigate and treat diseases of the face, mouth, jaw, and neck. These include:

- Dentoalveolar surgery
- Management of maxillofacial trauma
- Facial skin cancer surgery
- Orthognathic (dentofacial deformity) surgery
- Salivary gland surgery
- Intraoral cancer diagnosis

We are unable to offer routine dental surgery.

## Community Dental Service

Our staff members have expertise in the care, management and understanding of people with special needs. We offer treatment for both adults and children with:

- A learning disability warranting specialised care
- A physical disability
- Severe or complex medical problems
- Social, emotional, and/or behavioural problems
- Socially disadvantaged vulnerable groups
- Have neurodisability
- Are very young (pre cooperative)
- Anxious or dentally phobic
- Complex oral pathology

## The Orthodontic Department

The Orthodontic Department at Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust is a part-time department with clinical alliances to York Hospital. Dr Jennifer Rae, Consultant Orthodontist, is the Lead Orthodontic Clinician at Harrogate and is based in York Hospital. She attends Harrogate all day Monday and all day Thursday.

The Department is additionally staffed with part-time general dental practitioners:

- Orthodontics: Mr Alan Casson works in Harrogate all day Thursdays
- Orthodontics: Mr Jonathan Yates works in Harrogate on Monday mornings

Orthodontic treatment is generally best carried out on children, but it is possible for adults to have orthodontic treatment too – an increasing number do. Success depends on a partnership between the skills of the orthodontist, with the enthusiasm and help of patients and parents. It is important to attend regularly and carry out any instructions given by the orthodontist.

Orthodontic treatment can be used to treat:

- Crowded or crooked teeth (improving appearance and making them easier to clean)
- Protruding upper teeth
- Misalignment of teeth and jaws
- Bite problems caused by the relationship between the upper and lower jaws

## Should you require surgery

Having surgery is a big moment in life and it is normal to feel anxious about it. You can find general advice on what you can do to get the best outcome from your surgery at:

<https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/FitterBetterSooner2018web.pdf>

## What to do if your health is deteriorating

You can get information and help about a variety of common problems and find useful ways you can help yourself from the Harrogate Health Hub website at <https://www.harrogatehealthhub.co.uk>

### Urgent Health Advice

For urgent health advice about physical or mental health when it's not an emergency, please call 111 from any landline or mobile phone. You can also visit [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk). The NHS 111 service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### Life Threatening Emergencies

For something life threatening – severe bleeding, breathing difficulties or chest pains – please dial 999.

### GP surgeries are still open

If you experience an increase in pain or worsening of your symptoms you should in the first instance contact your General Practitioner for review and advice.

GP surgeries are still open and are working differently to how they did before the COVID-19 pandemic. GP practices continue to make best use of telephone, online and video consultations. Face-to-face appointments are still being given to those who need it.

When you phone or use an online form to contact your GP surgery to make an appointment, you will be asked some questions which are designed to help staff guide you to the most appropriate clinical person to help you with your condition. This could be a nurse, clinical pharmacist, physician's associate, GP or paramedic.

### [Find a GP in the region](#)

## Contact us

If you want to discuss any of the above please call: 01423 885959 or email [hdft.hello@nhs.net](mailto:hdft.hello@nhs.net)