



Step into Christmas

Christmas is a time to celebrate and have fun, and this year will be different, but we can still have fun and keep our areas safe and our patients and colleagues protected.



Rockin' around the Christmas tree

We don't have to say goodbye to Christmas trees - our estates team will be coming round with some vinyl printed, wall mounted Christmas trees for our inpatient areas. These can be decorated using stick on baubles and individual messages can be added on by the teams and patients on the wards. These are cleanable and support our infection prevention and control guidance. Please do not use real or plastic trees this year unless you have a safe, outdoor space and no ligature risks.

Baby, it's cold outside

But, if there is a tree in an outside area or courtyard, which can be seen from the windows, why not decorate that one instead? Please make sure there are no ligature risks involved.

Christmas lights

Please make sure your Christmas lights are either brand new (from a reputable store) or have been PAT tested. Battery powered lights are even better, as they don't need testing.



Santa Claus is coming to town

Be creative and decorate corridors, receptions and windows, but please avoid areas where clinical care takes place and staff rooms. Keep exit routes clear and keep handrails, door handles and other touch points clear so they can be cleaned and decontaminated—see guidance below on this. Avoid large scale displays, such as Santa's grottos and nativity scenes, as they are just too hard to keep clean.

White Christmas or should it be Wipe Christmas?

2020 is the year of decorations that should be wipeable, washable or cleanable! You will need to be able to clean them, or create laminated, disposable decorations that can be discarded at the end of this year. Please avoid any use of tinsel or any decorations that cannot be cleaned.

Blue Christmas - or the small print!

If an area has an infection outbreak over the Christmas period, then all the decorations will need to be disposed of and replaced as part of the deep clean process. These guidelines apply across all Trust sites and in clinical and non-clinical areas. They may be updated in line with changes to the pandemic.

This guidance can also be adapted for other events in the multi-faith calendar.

