

The hope that Weston was an exception

Published: January 13, 2026, 5:27 am

I am well aware that exceptions do not prove things. And the exceptional fact that Weston hospital [Weston hospital](#) near Bristol had to shut yesterday because of excessive Covid-19 admissions may prove nothing.

But it reminded me that on VE Day, which was the day lockdown in the UK came to an effective end, a doctor told me to expect an upturn in hospital admissions sixteen days later. That was on the basis that it takes six to incubate Covid 19 and another ten to then reach the point where admission is required, if it is going to be.

I am hoping Weston is an exception. If this week suggests otherwise the plans to end lockdown will look very premature. Time will tell.