

Coronavirus (Covid-19) Information September 2021

We would like to reassure all our patients that General Practice is open and here for all who need to use our services. Patients phoning to book an appointment will be asked if they want a telephone, video or face-to-face appointment.

Although lockdown restrictions are easing, it is still important for the safety of patients and staff that we continue to maintain a Covid-secure environment. If you attend the Surgery, face coverings should be worn and social distancing maintained in accordance with NHS England guidelines. Please DO NOT attend if you have a temperature, a cough, cold symptoms or a sore throat. Please ring the intercom and speak with Reception.

All those seeking a first or second Covid vaccination should contact 119 or go online for an appointment at a mass vaccination centre.

Latest information regarding children and young people

You may have seen the news that the NHS is going to vaccinate children and young people in specific groups, following [advice from the JCVI \(Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation\)](#).



The groups that are eligible for the vaccination are:

- 17-year-olds that are within 3 months of turning 18;
- 12-15-year olds 'at risk' with the underlying health conditions specified below:
 - severe neuro-disabilities,
 - Down's Syndrome,
 - underlying conditions resulting in immunosuppression, and
 - those with profound and multiple learning disabilities, severe learning disabilities or who are on the learning disability register
- Children aged 12 years and older who are household contacts of individuals (adults or children) who are immunosuppressed (this is in addition to 16-17 year olds in this group, who became eligible earlier in the year).

These groups have been selected based on a combination of factors including their risk of getting seriously ill from coronavirus, passing it to others who may become seriously ill, and evidence of safety and effectiveness.

If you are within 3 months of turning 18, you will be invited directly to book your appointments via the national booking service at the appropriate time.

Proof of Covid Vaccination

Your General Practice is unable to offer you a certificate of covid vaccination, a vaccination passport or a letter to prove you have been vaccinated against Covid-19. The NHS app is the best place to find details of your vaccinations and can be easily downloaded to a smartphone (links below).

If you do not have access to a smartphone then please call 119 and they will post a letter to you. This must be at least 5 days after you've completed your course of the vaccine. The letter may take another 5 days to reach you, or more if postal services are affected. Please take account of this when making your plans.

At the moment, vaccines administered overseas cannot be recorded in the UK vaccine system, so no vaccine certificate is currently available from the NHS. This issue is being worked on and an update is expected shortly.

Covid NHS Apps

Please see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/demonstrating-your-covid-19-vaccination-status-when-travelling-abroad> for further information.

The NHSapp can be downloaded from:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/nhs-app/id1388411277> for iPhone/iOS

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nhs.online.nhsonline> for Android.

If you have not used it before, there is a self-registration process within the app to create an "NHS login" as per <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/online-services/nhs-log-in/>

Please use the link below to access more information on how to support you and your family in their Covid recovery

<https://www.yourcovidrecovery.nhs.uk/>