

Dr Uddin & Dr Anwar Halliwell Surgery Practice Newsletter Spring 2026



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Practice Opening times – Mon to Friday 8am to 6.30pm – if you require medical assistance when we are closed, call 111

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Message from the practice

Welcome to our latest patient newsletter. We hope it helps keep you informed and up to date with important news, services, and advice on how to get the most from our practice.

Staff Updates

We recently said farewell to several members of our practice team – Dr Bhadra (GP Trainee), Jennifer Thompson (Mental Health Practitioner), and Byron Dale (MSK Practitioner).

We thank them for their contributions and wish them all the best in their future careers.

We have also welcomed a new GP Trainee, Dr Haider, who will be with us for 12 months until February 2027.

You can see a list of all our staff and what they can do for you on our practice website



Practice Updates

You may have noticed that over the past couple of years, when you contact the practice, our trained reception team will ask you a few questions. This helps us direct you to the most appropriate healthcare professional, which is not always a GP. Please be reassured that our reception staff are trained to handle your information sensitively and confidentially. These questions are designed to help you access the right care as quickly as possible — not to delay your appointment.

- **Why do we do this?** To ensure you receive the most appropriate care by booking you with the right healthcare professional or service, directing you to relevant community services where appropriate and keeping GP appointments available for patients who need them most
- **Who might you be seen by?** A GP, one of our nursing team, practice pharmacist, MSK practitioner, Mental Health Practitioner or Health Improvement Practitioner. You may also be signposted to a community service, such as Pharmacy First, Community Urgent Eye Care Service or your dentist. *If your condition is a medical emergency, you will be advised to call 999 or attend Accident & Emergency.*
- **How can you help us?** Please let our reception team know the reason for your call. If you can no longer attend an appointment, please contact us to cancel it so we can offer it to another patient
- **What if you feel the appointment should be urgent?** Our trained reception team will guide you to the most appropriate service. If your request is urgent, it will be reviewed by a member of our clinical team, and you will be offered an appointment or advice based on your symptoms.

**These changes are part of our ongoing efforts to improve access to care for all patients.
Thank you for your patience and support.**

Prescriptions

To help ensure you receive your medication on time, please remember the following guidance:

How to request your prescription:

- Via the NHS App
- Through your nominated pharmacy
- Handing in your request at the practice

To help keep our phone lines free for patients who need urgent medical assistance, **we do not accept routine prescription requests over the telephone.**

Please allow 48 working hours for your prescription to be processed.

During bank holidays, processing times may be longer. Please order your medications a little bit earlier to avoid running out.

Helpful tips:

- Check what medication you need before ordering
- **Only** request items you actually require
- Allow extra time for pharmacies to dispense your medication
- If you want to check if your prescription is ready – you can use the NHS app to track your prescription requests

Thank you for helping us keep our prescription ordering system running safely and efficiently.



Medicine Cabinet at Home

You can treat many minor ailments such as colds, coughs and indigestion by keeping a well-stocked medicine cabinet at home.

- Paracetamol and aspirin (children under 16 and people with asthma should not take aspirin)
- Mild laxatives
- Anti-diarrhoeal medicines
- Rehydration mixture
- Indigestion remedy (for example, antacids)
- Travel sickness tablets
- Sunscreen – SPF15 or higher
- Sunburn treatment (for example, calamine)
- Tweezers and sharp scissors
- A thermometer
- A selection of plasters, non-absorbent cotton wool, elastic bandages and dressings

Remember:

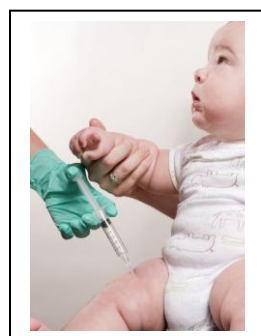
- Keep the medicine chest in a secure, locked place out of reach of small children
- Always read the instructions and use the suggested dose
- Watch expiry dates – don't keep or use medicines past their sell-by date
- Take all unwanted and out-of-date medicines back to the pharmacy

COVID19 Spring Booster Vaccinations 2026 from 13 April 2026

Who should have the COVID19 vaccine this spring are:

- Aged 75 or over (including those who will be 75 by 30 June 2026)
- Aged 6 months to 74 years and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment
- Live in a care home for older adults

If you're eligible for the spring COVID-19 vaccine, you can [book a COVID-19 vaccination appointment online](#) or in the [NHS App](#)



Childhood Immunisations

In the UK, our Childhood Immunisation Programme is to help to protect your child from serious illness or diseases and to protect other people in families and communities. These immunisations prevent millions of deaths worldwide every year.

When a baby or pre-school child is due their vaccinations, we will contact you with an appointment to attend to see our trained nurses. It is important that you attend the appointment or cancel and re-schedule appointments if you cannot attend. Please bring your child's red book to the appointment.

For more information – visit [Why vaccination is important and the safest way to protect yourself - NHS](#)