

What to find in our Autumn edition?

- Annual Influenza vaccine information
- COVID booster
- Measles and MMR
- NHS Health Checks
- Carers
- Join our PPG (Patient Panel Group)
- Medicine Waste

Patient Online Access

There are going to be some changes from the 1st November relating to access to your medical records.

On the 1st November you will automatically be given access to all future medical records. This will include medication, Immunisations, consultations, results and documents.

In order to have this access, all you need to do is register on the NHS App on or after the 1st November. If you register before the 1st November this access will be enabled on

If you would like access to your historic records, this still requires you to complete an 'Online Access form' which can be collected from the reception desk.

If you have any problems or queries about this change our reception



Weaver Vale Surgery

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Autumn Edition



Dr Kathy Fallon

Weaver Vale Surgery would like to wish Dr Kathy Fallon a well deserved retirement!

We would like to thank her for all of the work and projects she has ran making the surgery greener.

This work will be continued by our Green Team, Dr Everton, Dr Magona, Sophie Smith and Sally Wilkinson.

It's Flu Time!

It's that time of year again where the surgery is starting their annual flu vaccination programme.

This year the following cohorts are entitled to a free NHS Flu vaccination.

- Housebound and Care Home residents.
- Over 65's
- Age 64 and under with an 'at risk' condition
- 50—64 year old healthy patients
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2-3 years

If you fall within one of these cohorts the surgery will have already purchased your flu vaccination and will be making contact via text message or phone to book you into the vaccination clinics.

COVID19 Booster Vaccination

Currently there have been more than 126 million COVID vaccinations given across the country.

Autumn 2022 is the chance to receive the Autumn booster vaccination, this will be offered to the following patients:

- Residents in a care home and care home staff
- Frontline health and social care workers
- All patients aged 50 years and over
- Persons aged 5 to 49 years in an 'at risk' group
- Persons aged 5 to 49 years who are household contacts of people with immunosuppression
- Persons aged 16-49 years who are carers.

The vaccination which will be used is the Moderna mRNA (Spikevax) You will receive an invitation via either text message or telephone from the surgery when we are able to book your COVID vaccination appointment.

PPG

Patient Panel Group

Patient Panel Groups play a key role in ensuring that patients and their carers can influence their local services.

The PPG supports the practice in developing services to ensure the needs and wishes of the patient population are met.

If you are interested in becoming part of our Patient Panel Group, please ask at reception for more information and we would be happy to help further.

“The best interests and welfare of our patients is at the heart of everything we do.”

Medicine Waste

To reduce medicine waste please check your prescription is correct before you leave the pharmacy. Medication returned before you leave the pharmacy can be given to another patient. If medicines are taken home they then have to be destroyed, even if they are unopen.

If you think your repeat prescription is wrong, please tell reception and we can update your records, this will also avoid ordering of medication that is no longer needed.

Enhanced Access 1st Oct 2022

As you may be aware, NHS England (who commission our practices services) have set out a requirement that practices work together to ensure that patients are able to access services outside our normal hours of work (8.00am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday).

This way of working is not new to us, we have been providing so called Extended Access services for the last five years, including the ability for our patients to access services locally on Saturdays.

The times we provide extended access services from this practice have been determined by analysing the preferences of our patients over the last five years, in particular we have been keen to offer services to enable patients who work a distance away from the practice to access services.

We are proposing to add further services to our existing provision, from October 2022 our patients will have the opportunity to book appointments here (at the practice) on:

- Every Thursday Evening between 6.30pm – 8.00pm and on
- Every weekday morning between 7.10am and 8.00am.

In addition to the services provided from this practice, we are working with our neighbouring practices to offer appointments across the week and on Saturdays. As always, the availability of appointments will be dependent on our capacity, however, please ask the practice receptionist if you would ideally like an appointment outside the normal core hours. It is important to stress that the number of appointments offered outside the normal hours will only be a small proportion of our total appointments, as it is important that we do not undermine our normal level of service particularly given the current high levels of demand and our work-force challenges.

As we have stated, we are sure that the times Weaver Vale provides services (outside of core hours), reflects the preferences of our patients, but we would be pleased to hear your views so that we can continue to evaluate the best times to offer services.