

**\*\*\*CORONAVIRUS VACCINATION\*\*\***  
**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MEDICAL CARE**

As you will be aware, a national Coronavirus (Covid-19) vaccination programme is now underway across the UK.

We are working with challenging vaccine and stock constraints and consequently have to prioritise patients based on nationally defined criteria. This is briefly outlined below:

1. Residents in care homes for older adults & staff working within
2. Patients aged 80 and over & Frontline health and social care workers
3. Patients aged 75 and over
4. Patients aged 70 and over & Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals
5. Patients aged 65 and over
6. Patients aged 16-65 and in an at-risk group
7. Patients aged 60 and over
8. Patients aged 55 and over
9. Patients aged 50 and over

**All patients should be reassured that we will contact you directly as soon as we are able to offer you this vaccine.**

This vaccination programme is going to take **months not weeks** to complete and we would ask for your patience during these challenging times

Your usual GP and the Department of Health recommend that you have this vaccination when offered as it will provide the best protection against a new and unpredictable virus.

We would consequently **strongly advise** that you book an appointment for vaccination **when invited to do so**. Appointments will be bookable via the telephone only and patients will need to contact their registered surgery to make an appointment.

We have taken steps to ensure that we will be able to vaccinate the Whitstable population in a safe and socially distanced manner.

We will provide outdoor Drive-Thru clinics at the Estuary View Medical Centre site and internal clinics at the Whitstable Health Centre. The location of clinics will be determined by weather, vaccine and other logistical constraints. Consequently it may not be possible to offer you a choice of location.

The coronavirus vaccine is currently a two stage process. You will need to return after the first vaccine for a second. You will **not** have full protection until after the second vaccination.

We will make sure that you are booked in for **both** appointments and remind you when and where to attend.

For further details about the Coronavirus vaccine please visit: [www.nhs.uk/CovidVaccine](http://www.nhs.uk/CovidVaccine)

If you are going to book a vaccination with us please read important instructions below so that you are prepared for your appointment:

### **Outdoor Clinic**

If you are given a drive thru appointment you will need to attend the Estuary View Medical Centre site and may share a vehicle with other members of your household or bubble who are eligible for vaccination. **Someone will need to drive you to this appointment** wherever possible as you will not be able to drive for 15 minutes after vaccination.

On entrance to the business park you will need to follow road markings for 'Q'. Staff and volunteers will be on-hand to direct you appropriately to ensure traffic flows smoothly.

Prior to entering the bay, please ensure that **coats and jumpers are off** and that your **sleeve nearest the car window is rolled up**. You must also please **wear a mask**.



*Outdoor vaccination site at Estuary View Medical Centre*

### **Indoor Clinic**

These will be run from the Whitstable Health Centre. We have carefully adapted the building to ensure that a one way system can be in place. Floor markings will ensure that social distancing is maintained at all times.

You will be screened upon entry to be building and must **wear a mask**.



*Indoor vaccination site at Whitstable Health Centre*

**DO NOT attend a Coronavirus vaccination appointment if:**

- You have new symptoms of a cough
- You have a fever/high temperature
- You have a change or loss of taste and/or smell
- You have new symptoms of shortness of breath
- You have been in contact with anyone who has either a cough or fever in the 14 days prior to your appointment
- You have been confirmed as covid positive in the last 28 days
- You have been in recent contact with anyone confirmed to be coronavirus positive
- You have returned from a country outside of the travel corridor list in the last 14 days
- You have received the flu jab or any other vaccination within the last 7 days

**Wish to decline the Coronavirus vaccination?**

If you wish to decline the Coronavirus vaccination you must let us know in order to avoid further unnecessary reminders.

In order to decline, please email us at [info.wmp@nhs.net](mailto:info.wmp@nhs.net) remembering to include your name and date of birth.

Thank you for taking the time to read this document and for your support and understanding at this unprecedented time.

*G. Blandford*

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GMS Manager

