



The Village Medical Centre

December 2025 Newsletter

27 Grove Road
Wallasey
CH45 3HE
0151 691 1112

Web: <https://thevillagemedicalcentre.org.uk/>

 TheVillageMedicalCentre

Welcome to The Village Medical Centre's latest newsletter! We wish all our patients a happy and healthy Christmas and holiday season. Stay safe, enjoy time with family and friends, and we look forward to supporting your health in the New Year!

Practice Opening Hours and Bank Holidays

Our GP surgery remains open as usual on all working days except the bank holidays, and we are here to support you with your healthcare needs. The surgery is closed on Christmas Day. Please be aware that the practice is closed on Bank Holidays. On all other weekdays, our usual opening hours apply.

If you need medical advice or help when the surgery is closed, there are safe and appropriate alternatives available. For **urgent medical advice that is not life-threatening**, please contact NHS 111. This free service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and can direct you to the most appropriate care, including out-of-hours GP services, pharmacies, or urgent treatment centres.

In the event of a **medical emergency**—such as chest pain, signs of a stroke, severe breathing difficulties, or loss of consciousness—please call **999 immediately** or attend your nearest Accident & Emergency department.

Thank you for your understanding, and please remember that planning ahead (for example, order-

Flu Vaccination - A Winter Reminder

You may have seen recent media reports highlighting a rise in flu cases nationally this winter. Flu can be serious, particularly for older adults, young children, pregnant women, and people with long-term health conditions.

The flu vaccine is the most effective way to protect yourself and those around you. It reduces the risk of severe illness and helps limit the spread of flu within the community.

If you are **eligible for a free flu vaccination and have not yet had it this season**, we encourage you to book an appointment. It is not too late to be vaccinated, and protection lasts throughout the winter months.

Please contact the practice or book online to arrange your flu vaccination.

Find out more information about the flu vaccination:

www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine/

Thank You and Looking Ahead

As we come to the end of the year, we would like to thank all our patients for your understanding, kindness, and continued support throughout what has been another busy and challenging year for general practice. Your patience and cooperation make a real difference to our team and to the care we are able to provide.

As we move into the winter months, please be reassured that we remain here to support you and your family's healthcare needs. We will continue to do everything we can to provide safe, timely care and to help you access the right service at the right time. From all at The Village Medical Centre

Sign up for our newsletter to receive a copy straight to your inbox:



Additional Appointments Through Our PCN

Our surgery is part of a local network of GP practices (the Primary Care Network), which means our patients can access additional services at other surgeries. These include GP, physiotherapy, mental health, health coaching, and social prescribing appointments.

Following triage, you may be offered an appointment at another practice within the network. These services run throughout the week, including evenings and weekends. Clinicians will have secure access to your medical record for the consultation and can arrange prescriptions or investigations if needed.

Triage can be completed by phone or via our online consultation service, available on the homepage of our website. The admin team will contact you with the outcome.



New Childhood Immunisation - MMRV (Including Chickenpox)

From **January 2026**, the NHS is introducing a new combined childhood vaccine called **MMRV**, which protects against **measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox**. This means chickenpox vaccination will now be included as part of the routine NHS childhood immunisation programme for the first time.

Under the updated schedule, eligible children will be offered the **MMRV vaccine at around 12 months and again at 18 months**, replacing the MMR vaccine at these ages. Chickenpox is usually mild but can sometimes cause complications, and this change aims to reduce illness, hospital admissions and disruption for families.

If your child is due vaccinations, please check their red book and contact the practice if you have any questions or need to book an appointment.

Pharmacy First - Quick Access to Healthcare Advice

Did you know that for certain common conditions, you can get advice and treatment directly from your local pharmacy without needing a GP appointment? The **Pharmacy First** service helps patients access care quickly for minor illnesses such as **sore throat, earache, urinary tract infections (women), infected insect bites, impetigo, and shingles**. Pharmacists can provide expert advice, recommend over-the-counter treatments, and supply prescription medicines if appropriate.



We would love to hear your thoughts!

We have an online form which allows you to freely type your feedback about any aspect of the surgery. Alternatively, we also have forms in reception to complete.

Scan the QR code on the right to complete your feedback now