



Warringtontogether

Together for a happier and healthier Warrington

A fortnightly roundup of news from the health and care system in Warrington

26 April 2021

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COVID-19 news

Shielding

Shielding advice for clinically extremely vulnerable people was paused from 1 April. More than 13,000 vulnerable people in Warrington no longer have to shield from coronavirus but they are still advised to be cautious and follow the rules and the 'hands, face, space, fresh air' advice.

The council's Safe and Well service is still available for anyone who needs additional help and support. Visit warrington.gov.uk/safeandwell for more information.

Community testing

As the national roadmap out of lockdown continues, Warrington's community testing programme has expanded to ensure residents are able to access regular coronavirus tests.

There are six symptom-free testing sites in Warrington for those who require a lateral flow test (LFT) – two main sites at the Halliwell Jones Stadium and Grappenhall Parish Centre (previously Grappenhall Cricket Club), and three 'pop ups' in Birchwood, Croft, Lymm and Burtonwood.

Symptom-free tests are also available at some workplaces if your employer has a workplace testing programme in place, through the schools' community programme, ordering online for home delivery through LFD Direct, or via Pharmacy Collect. For more information about symptom-free testing, visit warrington.gov.uk/symptom-free-testing.

There are also sites available for people who have coronavirus symptoms to get tested. NHS (PCR) testing sites are open on Academy Way in the town centre, Spencer House car park in Birchwood, and at the mobile testing unit (MTU) at Orford Jubilee Hub – please remember that you need to book your appointment in advance via gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

For more information about testing in Warrington, visit warrington.gov.uk/TestAndTrace.

COVID-19 vaccination update

Warrington COVID-19 vaccination statistics - 22 April 2021 - by ONS population

% who have had at least 1 dose (using ONS denominators)							
45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80+
58.6%	91.4%	99.7%	100%*	96.2%	96.4%	100%*	100%*

- ✓ This covers vaccinations administered between 8 December 2020 and 18 April 2021
- ✓ The figures cover individuals who have an NHS number and are currently alive in the resident population
- ✓ Population is based on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2019 mid-year population estimates as the best publicly available population estimates
- ✓ 143,782 vaccinations (first & second doses) been given to residents of Warrington

[View more data on the COVID vaccination figures for Warrington](#)

Vaccination programme update

The vaccination programme continues to progress at pace. Local plans are being put in place by the local primary care networks (PCNs) to deliver vaccinations to the rest of the population described as cohorts 10 – 12 (people aged 40-49, 30-39 and 18-29) as these cohorts are announced. In line with national guidance, we are currently inviting people aged over 45 to be vaccinated. The NHS will invite eligible patients via a letter or a text message.

In Warrington, the Orford Jubilee Hub site will continue to deliver vaccinations to cohorts 10-12 as well as completing second doses for cohorts 1-9. The GPs working out of Orford are collaborating with local bus company Warrington's Own Buses and from 20 April will be looking to visit workplaces and other venues to vaccinate people in open cohorts.

Additionally, the Imaan Pharmacy at Bewsey and Pharmacy 2U at The Village Hotel sites and Warrington Hospital are expected to continue to deliver vaccinations to all cohorts as they are announced and called.

The PCNs working out of the Halliwell Jones Stadium will continue to do first and second doses of the vaccine for patients who are in cohorts 1-9 until those cohorts are completed. For these PCN practices, their patients who are in cohorts 10 -12 will be vaccinated via the pharmacy sites and the hospital hub in Warrington Hospital.

The CCG will be working with system partners and will source additional capacity if required.

Health services update

Adult Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) Services

NHS Warrington Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has commissioned GP-led service Warrington Primary Care Community Interest Company (WPC CIC) to deliver adult ADHD services.

Current patients will automatically transfer to the service. The main change is that patients will no longer go to Hollins Park for appointments or prescriptions. Instead, in the coming weeks, patients will receive a letter from WPC CIC with a time and date for a video or telephone appointment with a Nurse Consultant who specialises in ADHD. This is just to review their current treatment plan. These reviews will take place every year. In between these reviews, local GPs can prescribe their medication and provide support. Patients will also be able to collect their prescription from their local pharmacy.

GP Out of Hours Service

On 1 April, GP Out of Services in Warrington will transfer from Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to PC24. The change of provider will not involve a change of location or service for patients.

NHS 111 update

The Gynaecological Assessment Unit (GAU) at Warrington and Halton Hospitals is now accepting referrals via NHS 111. Patients who contact NHS 111 can be referred to the service and a time slot booked for them to arrive. The service will support women with acute pelvic pain, heavy, irregular vaginal bleeding, issues related to coils or Bartholin's abscess. The service is also available to women who have concerns during early pregnancy outside of normal clinic hours.

The service is based in Croft Wing at Warrington Hospital and open seven days per week from 8am to 8pm (last appointment is 7pm).

Merseyside and Region Stoma Service

NHS Warrington CCG has been working collaboratively with NHS Halton CCG, NHS Liverpool CCG, NHS Wirral CCG, NHS Knowsley CCG and NHS St Helens CCG to establish the Merseyside and Region Stoma Service (MARSS). It is a joint community service that will remove prescribing responsibility from GPs; providing a telephone-based 'hub' for prescription requests, and local community clinic 'spokes' used to provide ongoing community review and specialist nurse oversight across their localities, delivering enhanced patient care. The service will be provided to the 5,000 patients living with a stoma across the 6 CCGs regions involved in this project.

[Find out more...](#)

Other news

More car parking concessions introduced, and parking charges reinstated

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals has further extended its range of car parking concessions effective from 1 April 2021 to include:

- Free parking for visitors to Intensive Care
- Free overnight parking for up to two parents staying with children on the neonatal or children's units
- Free parking for patients attending outpatients for three or more times per calendar month.

This coincides with charges for car parking being reinstated for patients, visitors, and members of the public from 1 April following a full year of free parking.

Parking remains free for those attending the COVID-19 Vaccination Service at Warrington Hospital. Visitors will need to provide their car registration at the vaccination booking desk in the main outpatients department in order to prevent any unnecessary penalty notices.

Parking for staff, who must only park in designated staff parking areas, remains free of charge. Additional off-site staff car parking has also been introduced.

It is hoped that these measures will help to address congestion, especially at the Warrington site where people often struggle to park.

Bridgewater marks 10 year milestone

Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust turns 10 in April.

Established in 2011, the organisation is a leading provider of NHS community health services to the people of Warrington and Halton as well as St Helens and Oldham. It also provides community dental services across key areas throughout Greater Manchester and Cheshire.



THANK YOU
#TeamBridgewater

For the past decade, Bridgewater has delivered NHS health and care closer to a patient's home and away from a hospital. Community locations include clinics, health centres, community centres, schools, care settings and patient homes.

Highlighting the special milestone, Colin Scales, Bridgewater Chief Executive said:

“To the tens of thousands of people we see each year, we are the glue that holds their care together. We provide the support, equipment and expertise that allow people to live as independently as possible in their own home. We are also the people who help to get them back on their feet and back into work after major surgery.

“Our services are there for the families giving birth, raising their children, advising on childcare and immunisations, helping their adolescent years, supporting older age and planning their end of life.

“NHS community services really do make a difference to so many people.”

The Coronavirus pandemic has of course changed the way in which many services have operated over the past 12 or so months. Technology such as video consultations and telephone conversations have been hugely important throughout the pandemic. But so has keeping that individual face-to-face contact for those needing that personal care, albeit socially distanced and wearing the correct protective equipment.

As a way out of lockdown slowly emerges, Bridgewater cannot shy away from the fact that this remains a hugely challenging time for the NHS and its workforce.

Speaking about the pandemic and the impact it has had on staff, Colin added:

“Our teams have been nothing short of inspirational in addressing Covid-19. The last twelve or so months have presented many challenges that perhaps none of us would have ever thought we would see in a career in healthcare.

“Our hope of normality lies in the vaccination programme being rolled out here in the UK and around the world.

“Taking time to reflect on the events of the past year, it seems fitting that our recognition of thanks and gratitude coincides with Bridgewater’s tenth anniversary.”

But what does the next ten years hold for community services? Looking towards the future, Colin said:

“Our focus as an organisation will be on strengthening the relationships we have with our primary care, acute sector and local authority colleagues.

“In the upset and impact that COVID-19 has brought to so many families, our hope is that we take this opportunity to learn from the pandemic by really championing the corner of community health services and the important part it plays to so many.

“I would like to thank our Bridgewater colleagues past and present, as well as the partners we work so closely with. My final thanks go to the public and the patients we have proudly served and cared for over the past 10 years.”

The next edition of the bulletin is 10 May 2021