Whitewater Health

March 2026

Patient Participation Group

IMMUNISATION - WHY GET IMMUNISED?

The UK vaccination programme prevents around 5,000 deaths and 100,000 hospital admissions each year.

In recent years there has been a trend of lower vaccine uptake such that England no longer has the high levels of population immunity recommended by the World Health Organisation for infectious diseases like measles to be eliminated (95%).

Vaccination is one of the easiest and most powerful ways to protect children from serious illness. In a world where global travel and close community living allow diseases to spread quickly, vaccines act as a vital shield. They train a child's immune system to recognise and fight infections before they can cause harm, reducing the risk of complications that can lead to life-long complications like deafness, blindness, encephalitis (infection of the brain) paralysis or in some cases death.

Beyond individual protection, vaccination strengthens the entire community. When most children are immunised, diseases struggle to spread - a benefit known as herd immunity - especially important for babies, older adults, and those who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.



Childhood vaccinations offered by the NHS have been:

- rigorously tested
- continuously monitored
- used in millions of children worldwide and
- proven to be safe.

Important Communications from the Practice

To ensure you receive information quickly from the practice, please could you ensure you have **"Notifications" in the NHS App turned on** and if you have one, supply an email address to the practice.
Use of texts-SMS and emails will cost the practice from April whereas it is free via the NHS App. From April 2025 the practice has sent 562,511 texts to patients
New interesting stats:
Average booked time to being seen is 8.2 days
Average time in the waiting room is 4 minutes
Appointments missed or where patients did not attend in December:
348 missed appointments, which is 1 in 22 missed, wasting 115 hours of practitioner time = 1.1 full time clinician; costing the practice £10,400.

xxx

PPG Contact Details: *(Please Note: The PPG is unable to deal with any medical or personal matters)*
Email: Whitewaterppg@gmail.com **https://www.facebook.com/WhitewaterPPG**

Practice/Surgery Contact Details :
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