

News from Holbrook and Shotley Surgery

GP and Staff Training

Our next training afternoons will be on Wednesday 10th October and Thursday 15th November. The practice will be open for patients to come in to collect/drop off prescriptions and book appointments/make enquiries at reception. However, there will be no clinical staff on site and our telephone lines will be switched over to the out of hours' service on these afternoons to allow staff training. Please ring 111 for advice if your query cannot wait until the following day. In an emergency, dial 999.

Community Connector Scheme

Our Community Connector Scheme has received further funding and has extended to include new venues. If you know of a neighbour who needs help or you would like to talk to someone yourself, please visit the bus on a Tuesday or Wednesday at various sites on the peninsula. The scheme has helped a number of our patients so far and has capacity to help many more. The bus has a communal area for general discussion and patients can also access personal 1:1 support with a link worker.

Suffolk Warm Homes / Health People Scheme

As winter approaches, please spread the word about this scheme to those without central heating. Being warm can make a real difference to your health over the winter months, especially if you have any long term conditions such as asthma or COPD. A number of our patients have accessed this scheme to provide a free central heating system or smaller items such as loft insulation to insulate their homes. For more information, please contact **03456 037 686** or email whhp@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

Flu days

The way we run our flu vaccination clinics will be different this year due to a change in vaccinations and a very late, and spread out, delivery schedule. We will have one vaccine for eligible patients under 65 eg those with certain long term conditions such as asthma and diabetes, and a different vaccination for those aged 65+, called Fluad. There is only one National supplier for the Fluad vaccination, which means that our delivery dates have been staggered from the end of September to the end of November. This is a national issue and there we have had to set a strict timetable accordingly.

Open access flu clinics for all eligible patients will be as follows:

Monday 1st October 2.00pm – 6.00pm at Holbrook

Thursday 18th October 2.00pm – 6.30pm at Shotley

Thursday 1st November 2.00pm – 6.30pm at Shotley

Tuesday 20th November 2.00pm – 6.30pm at Holbrook

For eligible patients under 65: you will receive notification of eligibility by letter by the end of September.

For patients who will be 65 and over by 31st March 2019: please attend any of the above clinics.

For those patients due to have shingles or pneumococcal vaccinations, we are now inviting you just after your birthday and these will no longer be available on flu clinic days.