April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take a moment to share some important information about a service that can help support your child’s health and well-being: **Pharmacy First**.

**What is Pharmacy First?**

Pharmacy First is a new service designed to provide fast, convenient treatment for seven common health conditions, without the need to visit your GP. This initiative allows trained community pharmacists to provide a comprehensive consultation, advice and when needed supply prescription-only medicines, including antibiotics and antivirals (when clinically appropriate).

**Which conditions can Pharmacy First help with?**

The Pharmacy First service covers treatment for a range of common health conditions, including:

* Sore throat – people aged five and over
* Earache – children aged one to 17
* Infected insect bite - people aged one and over
* Impetigo (a bacterial skin infection) – people aged one and over
* Sinusitis – people aged 12 and over
* Shingles – people aged 18 and over
* Uncomplicated urinary infections – women aged 16-64 years

If your child is suffering from one of the above conditions, and is in the relevant age group, you can now visit your local pharmacy to receive the necessary treatment without needing to make an appointment. Simply walk into your local pharmacy and ask to talk to a member of the team.

**Why use Pharmacy First?**

Almost 30,000 people have already used Pharmacy First services across our area over the last few months, and have received support from highly trained community pharmacists without the need to make an appointment first. So, the next time you or your child is suffering from any of the conditions listed above, why not speak to your local pharmacy for easy, same day access. You can find out where your nearest pharmacy is by visiting: [www.nhs.uk/service-search/pharmacy/find-a-pharmacy/](https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/pharmacy/find-a-pharmacy/)

Thank you,

**Sati Ubhi**
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