

Pharmacies open in North Ayrshire over the Christmas period

With GP practices closing on Friday 25 and Monday 28 December, North Ayrshire residents are being urged to prepare to cope with any common health concerns.

Community pharmacists can answer questions on choosing and using the right medicine and provide easy-to-understand advice on treating everyday ailments such as coughs, colds and seasonal flu. NHS 24 also has a number of pharmacists who are able to answer medicine and pharmacy-related questions over the telephone on 111. In addition, NHS inform has valuable advice on preparing for winter – visit <http://www.nhsinform.scot> and click on ‘Show You Care, Prepare’.

Roisin Kavanagh, Director of Pharmacy, explains: “You can do a number of things to make sure you are prepared to deal with common illnesses for the coming months. Have a sufficient supply of medicines like paracetamol, sore throat and cough remedies, as these will help to relieve the symptoms of common ailments.

“If you take regular medication, you should check your existing supplies and only order what you need to ensure you have enough to see you through the holiday weekend. It is also a good idea to make sure you know when your local GP practice and community pharmacy are closed.”

Your community pharmacist can:

- prescribe medication for you following a consultation, under the NHS Pharmacy First Scotland Service;
- treat many women from age 16 to 65 for urinary tract infections under the Pharmacy First service (where they meet certain criteria);
- treat many patients from two years of age for impetigo under the Pharmacy First service (where they meet certain criteria);
- provide your repeat prescriptions when your GP is not available (under certain circumstances);
- give women advice and supply emergency hormonal contraception;
- dispense prescriptions;
- give advice, support and where appropriate, prescribe nicotine replacement therapy to those giving up smoking;
- hold records of your medicines to ensure that the safety of any future medication is checked;
- provide a private area to discuss sensitive issues; and
- give you advice over the telephone;
- give you advice on the best way to take your medicines

Many pharmacies also offer:

- advice on travel health;
- pregnancy testing;
- collection and delivery of prescriptions;
- supervised methadone supply; and
- needle exchange

Over Christmas, when GP practices are closed, you can still get advice from a community pharmacist or NHS 24. Going to the correct healthcare provider means you will be seen quicker and more efficiently. If you need a doctor or dentist and it cannot wait until your GP or dental surgery is open, call NHS 24 on 111.

Thursday 24 December 2020

All pharmacies will be **open** as normal, except those listed below which will close early:

- Boots, Unit 2B, East Road, Irvine – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Superdrug, 6B Aitken Street, Largs – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Wm Morrisons Pharmacy, 4 Irvine Road, Largs – open 9am – 5.30pm
-

Friday 25 December 2020

All pharmacies will be **closed**, except:

- Boots, 9 Lower Vennel, Irvine – open 12pm – 2pm
- Dreghorn Pharmacy, 20 Main Street, Dreghorn – open 2pm – 4pm

Saturday 26 December 2020

All pharmacies will be **closed**, except:

- Well Pharmacy, 18/20 Main Street, Beith – open 9am – 1pm
- Penman Pharmacy, 2 Eglinton Street, Beith – open 9am – 1pm
- Boots, 1 Fullarton Square, Irvine – open 10am – 5pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 154/156 High Street, Irvine – open 9am – 5pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 151 Main Street, Kilwinning – open 9am – 5pm
- Superdrug, 6B Aitken Street, Largs – open 11am – 5pm
- Wm Morrisons Pharmacy, 4 Irvine Road, Largs – open 10am – 4pm
- Care Pharmacy, 55 Main Street, Springside – open 9am – 1pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 28/30 New Street, Stevenson – open 9am – 5pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 110/112 Main Street, West Kilbride – open 8:45am – 5pm

Sunday 27 December 2020

All pharmacies will be **closed**, except:

- Boots, 1 Fullarton Square, Irvine – open 11am – 5pm
- Superdrug, 6B Aitken Street, Largs – open 11am – 5pm

Monday 28 December 2020

All pharmacies will be **closed**, except:

- Gallagher Healthcare, 41 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan – open 9am – 1pm and 2pm - 6pm
- Arran Pharmacy, Lamlash – open 9am – 1pm
- Arran Pharmacy, Brodick – open 9am – 1pm
- Penman Pharmacy, 2 Eglinton Street, Beith – open 10am – 4pm

- Gallagher Healthcare – 1 New Street, Dalry – open 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 6pm
- Boots, 1 Fullarton Square, Irvine – open 10am – 5pm
- Lawthorn Pharmacy, 1 Cardow Crescent, Irvine – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Boots, 9 Lower Vennel, Irvine – open 9am – 5.45pm
- Boots, 22/24 High Street, Irvine – open 8.30am – 6pm
- Boots, Unit 2B, East Road, Irvine – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Boots, 9a Frew Terrace, Irvine – open 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Boots, 78 Main Street, Kilbirnie – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Boots, 2A Dalry Road, Kilbirnie – open 8.30am – 6pm
- Boots, 27 Almswall Road, Kilwinning - open 8.30am – 6pm
- Boots, 42 Main Street, Largs – open 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Halliday Pharmacy, 5 Aitken Street, Largs – open 8.30am – 5pm
- Wm Morrisons, 4 Irvine Road, Largs – open 10am – 4pm
- Cumbrae Pharmacy, 30 Stuart Street, Millport – open 9am -1pm and 1.30pm – 5.30pm
- Boots, 77 Dockhead Street, Saltcoats, open 9am – 5.30pm
- Gallagher Healthcare, 41 Hamilton Street, Saltcoats – open 9am – 1.30pm and 2pm - 5.30pm
- Gallagher Healthcare, 13 New Street, Stevenston, - open 9am - 1pm and 2pm – 5.30pm

Background

The symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) are: new persistent cough; high temperature; and / or loss of taste and smell. Anyone who develops any of these symptoms should book a test and self-isolate immediately.

Everyone in Ayrshire and Arran is reminded to remember the FACTS guidance:

F – Face coverings. These should be used in shops and on public transport (buses, trains and taxis)

A – Avoid crowded places.

C – Clean your hands frequently, using water & soap whenever possible.

T – Two metres – observe physical distancing.

S – Self-isolate and book a test if you are suffering from COVID-19 symptoms.

Date of release:

Friday 18 December 2020