

Pharmacies open in South Ayrshire over the Christmas period

With GP practices closing on Friday 25 and Monday 28 December, South 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, 42 Main Street, Whitletts, Ayr – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Wm Morrisons Pharmacy, Castlehill Road, Ayr – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Boots, 49 Academy Street, Troon - open 8.30am – 5.30pm

Friday 25 December 2020

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

- Well Pharmacy, 10/12 Sandgate, Ayr – open 11am – 1pm
- Toll Pharmacy, 153 Ayr Road, Prestwick – open 1pm – 3pm
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Saturday 26 December 2020

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

- Boots, 168/170 High Street, Ayr – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Boots, 99 New Road, Ayr – open 9am – 1pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 63/65 Alloway Street, Ayr – open 9am – 5pm
- Boots, 22 Fullarton Street, Ayr – open 9am – 12pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 26 Wellington Square, Ayr – open 9am – 12pm
- Rowland Pharmacy, 29 Mount Oliphant Crescent, Ayr – open 9am – 2pm
- Well Pharmacy, 10/12 Sandgate, Ayr – open 9am – 1pm
- Wm Morrisons Pharmacy, Castlehill Road, Ayr – open 10am – 4pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 146 Dalmellington Road, Ayr – open 9am – 5pm
- Seafield Pharmacy, 43/45 Blackburn Drive, Ayr – open 9am – 5pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 71 High Street, Maybole – open 9am – 5pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 9 High Street, Maybole – open 9am – 5pm
- Boots, 66/68 Main Street, Prestwick, open 9am – 1pm
- Boots, 8 The Cross, Prestwick, - open 9am – 1pm
- Boots, 49 Academy Street, Troon – open 9am – 5.30pm

Sunday 27 December 2020

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

- Boots, 168/170 High Street, Ayr – open 12pm – 4pm
- Wm Morrisons Pharmacy, Castlehill Road, Ayr – open 9am – 5pm
- Lloyds Pharmacy, 146 Dalmellington Road, Ayr – open 10am – 5pm
- Boots, 49 Academy Street, Troon – open 11am – 4pm

Monday 28 December 2020

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

- Boots, 168/170 High Street, Ayr – open 11am – 4.30pm
- Boots, 42 Main Road, Whitletts, Ayr – open 9am – 6.30pm
- Wm Morrisons Pharmacy, Castlehill Road, Ayr - open 10am – 4pm
- Coylton Pharmacy, 13 Main Street, Coylton – open 9am – 6pm
- Boots, 39 Dalrymple Street, Girvan – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Boots, Girvan Community Hospital, Girvan – open 9am – 5.30pm
- Boots, 89 Main Street, Prestwick – open 9am – 6pm
- Boots, 49 Academy Street, Troon – open 11am – 4pm
- Stevenston Chemist, 131 Deveron Road, Troon – open 9am – 1pm

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