

HAZELMERE MEDICAL CENTRE

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Coronavirus Special Newsletter

Important information about the coronavirus (COVID-19)

The NHS in England and Public Health England (PHE) are well prepared for outbreaks of new infectious diseases. The NHS has put in place measures to ensure the safety of all patients and NHS staff while also ensuring services are available to the public as normal.

The latest information on symptoms of coronavirus can be found on nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

Stay at home if you have coronavirus symptoms

Stay at home for if you have either:

- ✦ a high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home.

Testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home.

RECENT HEADLINES

Recent texts/letter about 12 Week isolation for At Risk Groups

Who is at high risk? You may be at high risk from coronavirus if you:

- have had an organ transplant
- are having certain types of cancer treatment
- have blood or bone marrow cancer, such as leukaemia
- have a severe lung condition, such as cystic fibrosis or severe asthma
- have a condition that makes you much more likely to get infections
- are taking medicine that weakens your immune system

are pregnant and have a serious heart condition

Information:

If you're at high risk, you will be contacted by the NHS by Sunday 29 March 2020. Do not contact your GP or healthcare team at this stage – wait to be contacted. **GPs do not have any other information than is available on the NHS website.**

Rescue Medication

Despite recent media discussion on Facebook etc. guidance states that there is no need for asthmatics to have Rescue medication packs. The only group of patients requiring these is patients who have Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) with a breathless scale of 3 or greater. GPs at this time **WILL NOT** be issuing anyone outside of this group with rescue pack medication.

Up to date information can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



GOV.UK WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Service

A new GOV.UK WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Service has now been launched. The purpose of this product is to combat the spread of misinformation propagated through WhatsApp on an Official Government channel. To use the service, members of the public simply add +44 7860 064422 to their contacts and send a WhatsApp message Hi to start receiving

Covid 19 Hot Hubs

To support NHS 111 and general practice in the fight against Coronavirus, local Hot Hubs have been created to ensure patients who may have or have been exposed to the coronavirus are able to be medically treated but kept away from primary care to reduce the risk of spread.

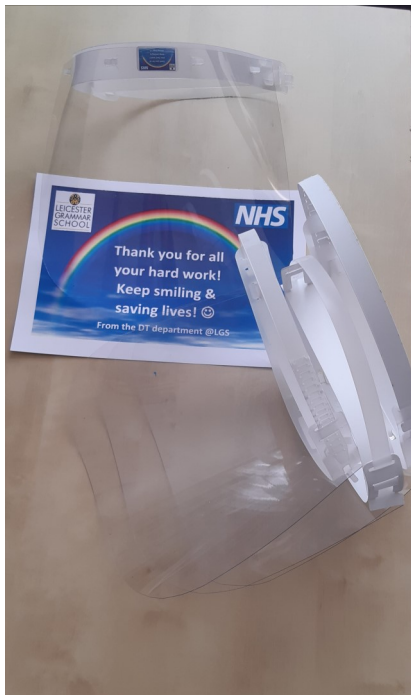
A hot hub facility that will see coronavirus symptomatic patients who:

- 1) Are too ill for self-managed self-isolation and do not require direct acute hospital admission.
- 2) Patients who are self-isolating (with no symptoms) but someone in the household has COVID symptoms and are presenting with a condition that cannot wait 14 days for self-isolation to end.
- 3) Patients with mild COVID symptoms, are self-isolating but have an acute clinical need which would warrant urgent clinical examination which cannot be resolved by remote consultation

GPs can refer patients in and clinicians working at the hub will have the option to either book a patient into a face to face appointment, decline the referral or give self-management advice Face to face or via the telephone.

The Hot Hub site is based at Oadby Walk in Centre and is by appointment only via the GP, Please do not attend there without having consulted the practice.

Huge Thank You



As most have you would have seen in the media, there has been many problems with getting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for frontline staff.

Without this we cannot treat anyone due to the risk of the coronavirus.

We have tried without luck to obtain face shields through NHS suppliers.

To our rescue came Leicester Grammar School who made us face shields in their Design and Technology department.

A huge thank you to them for ensuring we can remain safe and treat our patients who need our help in this difficult time.

Enhanced Care Record

If you are admitted to Hospital **They cannot see your records!!** Unless you sign up for an enhanced Care Record.

By signing up to the Enhanced Services Care Record these Healthcare providers, with your permission (they must ask you before accessing your record) can view your GP records.

If you wish to have Enhanced Summary Record please speak to reception.