



West Lancs COVID-19 Local information update

December 3rd 2021

Covid-19 situation

What's happening in West Lancs?

- The number of people testing positive for covid-19 is **continuing to drop** in West Lancs - despite a slight rise across the UK.
- Encouragingly, hospital admissions and deaths from covid are both **continuing to drop** as the boosters continue to have a major effect in boosting immunity in older age groups.
- See the situation in your postcode [here](#).



Latest covid data:

From the [Government Coronavirus Dashboard](#)



West Lancs Covid cases

In last 7 days to Dec 2nd:

379 (- 14%)

[See change over last 3 months here](#)



UK Covid cases

In last 7 days to Dec 2nd:

311,957 (+ 3%)

[See changes over last year here](#)

People admitted to hospital - West Lancs

No. of people admitted to hospital due to covid up to 21st Nov:

11 (- 15%)

[More West Lancs hospital data here](#)



People admitted to hospital - UK

No. of people admitted to hospital due to covid up to 28th Nov:

5,282 (- 6%)

[More UK hospital data here](#)

Latest vaccination uptake - % population age 12+ (to 1-12-21)			
West Lancs	83% First dose	77% Second dose	38% Booster/third dose
UK	89% First dose	81% Second dose	33% Booster/third dose

Key developments this week

News of the **Omicron variant** has shown the pandemic is not over.

It will take a couple of weeks to get enough data to be sure of the implications, but initial studies are showing that Omicron is likely to be more easily transmitted but that vaccines are likely to still be effective.

Vaccination changes

In the light of the uncertainty around Omicron, the government has announced the following changes this week:

- **Everyone aged 18 and above will be eligible for a covid booster**
- **Boosters will be offered by age group, in a descending order.** To protect those who are most vulnerable first, priority will be given to older adults and people over 16 who are at risk.
- **The gap between second dose and boosters will be halved from 6 months to 3 months.**
- **Children aged between 12 and 15 will be offered a second dose**
- **Severely immunocompromised people can get a fourth dose**

Please note: These changes do not take effect yet. The government plans to deliver this expanded booster programme by the end of January but the NHS needs to put capacity in place before expanding the programme. The NHS will contact everyone once they are eligible.

Until that point, **eligibility remains as it was last week** - more information here: www.nhs.uk/conditions/...

Other changes

The infographic is a blue rectangular box with white text and icons. In the top left corner is the HM Government logo, and in the top right corner is the NHS logo. The content is organized into three columns:

- FACE COVERINGS**: to be compulsory on public transport and in shops. Below the text is a white icon of a surgical mask.
- ALL INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS**: to take a day 2 PCR test and self-isolate until they receive a negative result. Below the text are two white icons: a profile of a person with a swab stick in their mouth, and a house with a person silhouette inside.
- ALL CONTACTS**: of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate ten days, regardless of vaccination status. Below the text is a white icon of a house with a person silhouette inside.

Local vaccinations

Locally, West Lancashire CCG is putting plans in place to meet demand in the timescale set out by NHS England for the above vaccination changes.

We will keep you updated on details of any **new local vaccination clinics** in the coming weeks.

Until these are announced, there are a few local clinics continuing, including these in Burscough:

> **Walk in vaccination clinics this weekend** <

At O'Briens Pharmacy Group in Burscough

Friday 3rd December - 10am-5:30pm

Saturday 4th December - 10am-2pm

This is for 1st, 2nd or booster doses and people must meet current eligibility criteria.

First and second doses available for ages 18+ only

Boosters available for:

- Aged 40+

- Aged 18+ with a condition that puts you at high risk from COVID-19
- Health and social care worker

And it should be at least 6 months since your 2nd dose



Getting your vaccinations

The key message in the light of Omicron is to get your vaccination or booster as soon as you can.

Everyone over 12 is currently eligible for a covid vaccine and it's not too late - even if you haven't had any doses yet.

To get your jab or your booster:

- at a vaccination centre or pharmacy, [book here](#)
- at a walk-in site (without appointment), [find one here](#)

Can you help support the community?

Call for vaccination centre volunteers



As the booster campaign steps up, more volunteers are urgently needed to help at the vaccination centres.

Vaccination centres rely heavily on volunteers providing marshalling in buildings and parks to help people feel safe and confident when attending for their appointments.

A minimum commitment of a couple of hours a week is needed.

You will get full training and travel costs.

Find out more and sign up [here](#).

Other places to volunteer

CAN YOU SPARE SOME TIME, TO SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY?



There's many ways to help out in West Lancs.
Here's some of the 100s of opportunities:



Saturday Club Volunteer

Volunteer at Saturday dance and creative sessions for children with additional needs



Foodbank Volunteer

Volunteer at a local foodbank to meet, greet and deal with clients, or give support in the distribution centre.



Café Volunteer

Volunteer to help run a busy community café in Aughton - variety of roles available.



Volunteer Drivers

Help your community by driving your car to take elderly or disabled people to the shops, health venues or to see friends. Mileage costs fully reimbursed.



Contact **Jan** at
CVS Volunteer Centre
on **07598 552945**

The CVS Volunteer Centre has **hundreds of organisations looking for volunteers** above for some of those needing help now.

If you want to find out more or are interested in volunteering, do [contact Jan](#) to connect with people needing help in your local area.

Plant a tree!



Skelmersdale community group [Friends of Tawd Valley](#) are looking for volunteers to help plant trees tomorrow.

To celebrate National Tree Week, the Friends are planting 420 trees donated by the Woodland Trust.

Join them on Saturday 4th December 2021 between 10am till 1:30pm.

Elaine Brookes, secretary of the groups says:

'We will meet up at 10am at the community orchard at the back of the new allotments on Manfield. The ground has been prepared so we should be able to get many of the trees planted. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing, footwear and gloves.'

If anyone wants to get involved planting a tree, please come along and even if you can only stay for a short while you will still be very welcome.

Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult. For younger children we have purchased some small spades so they too can plant some trees.

Find out more about the event [here](#)

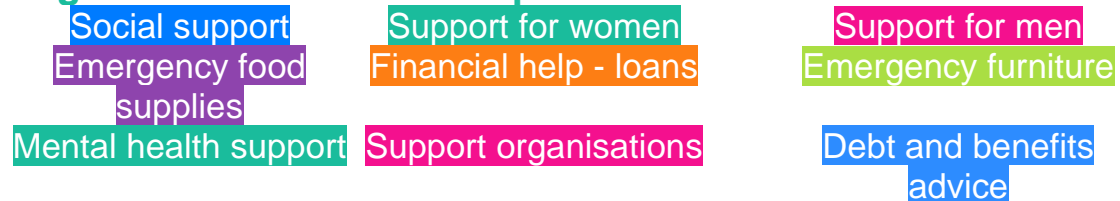
Find out about the Friends of Tawd Valley on their website: friendsoftawdvalley.or...

Support organisations

There are lots of local organisations that can offer help and support on a wide range of issues at this pandemic time.

Do pass this information on to anyone you know who needs a hand.

Organisations that can help:



Can you help us get the word out?

We are working with West Lancashire Borough Council to get accurate information into the heart of communities and would be grateful if you could pass this on to your networks. Please join in these efforts by cascading these messages on to your work colleagues, friends and families using the share buttons below:



SHARE TO FACEBOOK



SHARE TO TWITTER



FORWARD EMAIL

West Lancs CVS

Certacs House, 10-12 Westgate, Skelmersdale
United Kingdom

01695-733737
enquiries@wlcvs.org

[Unsubscribe](#)