



# A message from Maddy...



Last week, we had to make the difficult decision to suspend walk-in Covid-19 vaccination appointments at the York Vaccination Centre at Askham Bar due to unprecedented demand. I know it was a challenging week for everyone involved and I'm very grateful for your efforts.

I'd appeal to anyone reading this newsletter to help us spread awareness of the fact that we need people to book their vaccination appointments online at [www.nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk) for the time being. People just turning up at the site will be turned away. We're also reminding people to be kind; our volunteers and traffic team are only doing their jobs. Anyone whose behaviour is abusive will be asked to leave the site.

As we continue to grow and evolve, we're now running multiple health care services for local people of all ages, both at our Askham Bar site and at other locations in the city. To date, we've administered 20,000 Covid-19 boosters, 3,000 Covid-19 jabs for 12 to 15-year-olds and 7,500 flu jabs; seen around 60 babies and children under five years of age with respiratory conditions at our new Paediatric Ambulatory Treatment Hub; and vaccinated more than 50 pregnant woman at antenatal clinics at York Hospital. This is a remarkable achievement, and I thank each and every one of you for the part you've played in making this possible. Do read on to find out more about some of these services.

*I wanted to share with you this beautiful photograph of a rainbow over our Askham Bar site (left), which was taken by Dr John Lockett at the weekend.*





## Vaccinating 12 to 15-year-olds

Last week we were asked to support the NHS School Vaccination Programme in North Yorkshire and York. I'm proud to say that, within 24 hours of being mobilised, we'd made 2,000 appointments available at the York Vaccination Centre at Askham Bar during the half-term holiday period, which are bookable via the NHS National Booking System. Since then, we've added hundreds more appointments to the system. We're asking people to attend as close to their appointment time as possible, wrap up warm, be prepared for wet weather and drink plenty of fluids on the day. Patients can also book an appointment at our special week day and weekend clinics for 12 to 15-year-olds, which began last Saturday 23 October.

## Vaccinations for pregnant women at antenatal clinics

We're now attending hospital antenatal clinics to offer pregnant women a Covid-19 vaccination, and chat to them about the importance of protecting themselves and their unborn child.

This new service is the latest example of innovative, collaborative working between Nimbuscare and York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. In recent weeks it has been well documented in the national media that a significant proportion of those who are currently ill in hospital with Covid-19 are pregnant women who have not been vaccinated.

At a local level, we're doing all we can to encourage mums-to-be to take up the offer of a vaccine to protect themselves and their baby. Our team have found that many of the pregnant women who've visited the York Vaccination Centre at Askham Bar initially have a few questions about the vaccine. However, we've also found that, if our clinicians spend just a few minutes chatting about their concerns and answering their questions, most women then feel sufficiently reassured about the benefits to go on and have a vaccination. By having our teams attend antenatal clinics at the hospital, we hope to prevent more pregnant women from ending up seriously ill in hospital. We're very grateful to York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust for supporting and working with us on this initiative, which we hope will help to reduce the number of hospital admissions locally.



Public Health  
England

### Pregnant?

**Have your COVID-19 vaccines!**

It is important to have both doses of your COVID-19 vaccine to protect you and your unborn baby.

COVID-19 infection is currently circulating and can be serious for pregnant women.

Thousands of pregnant women have been safely vaccinated in the UK and worldwide.



Debbie Scott, Maternity Matron for York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We know that getting the vaccine is the best way to protect you and your baby against Covid-19. It really is that simple.

"Hundreds of thousands of pregnant women worldwide have been vaccinated, safely and effectively protecting themselves against Covid and dramatically reducing their risk of serious illness or harm to their baby.

"It's an ideal opportunity at the antenatal clinics to ask questions, get the answers you need and to get the jab."



## Exciting job opportunities

Please visit the [Recruitment page on our website](#) for details of a number of exciting new job opportunities with Nimbuscare, as well as details of jobs with some of our partner organisations. We're currently advertising a number of clinical and administrative posts, including some opportunities with our Improving Access Service. Please do spread the word among your family, friends and anyone you know who might be interested in a career in healthcare.

## NHS Health Check clinics to begin this weekend

From this Sunday, 31 October, we'll be offering NHS Health Checks to eligible patients aged 40 to 74 years. Patients will be invited to book an appointment at these clinics, which will take place at our Askham Bar site and at other locations around the city.

Appointments are with a health care professional, usually a Health Care Assistant, and are designed to spot the early signs of stroke, kidney disease, heart disease, type 2 diabetes or dementia.

As we get older, we have a higher risk of developing one of these conditions, and an NHS Health Check helps find ways to lower this risk. For more information about NHS Health Checks, visit the [website](#).







## Well done Mike and Mollie

The York Community Pride Awards ceremony took place earlier this month and I'd like to congratulate our Chair, Professor Mike Holmes, who was named Person of the Year after being nominated for his work leading York's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

I'm delighted that one of our youngest volunteers, 16-year-old Mollie Ovenden, was also recognised with a Spirit of Youth Award for giving up her free time to support the York Vaccination Centre at Askham Bar.

Well done Mike and Mollie!



## Halloween fun

I hope those of you who went on the recent team outing to the Hallowscream event at York Maze had a great time. We couldn't resist sharing a photograph from the night (left).

*As always, thank you all for your hard work.  
Look out for our next newsletter in two weeks' time.*

*In the meantime, please follow us on  
social media for more news updates:*



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