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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **OVID-19 and Influenza vaccination programme East Sussex update 18 November 2021** | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **More than 380,000 people protected by their booster** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Latest figures show that to date 387,186 booster vaccinations have been given across Sussex - this includes 123,028 people who have received their booster in East Sussex.  This means that 59.1% of the total eligible population are now protected by their booster for the winter.  Clinics are taking place across vaccination centres, GP led services and pharmacy led services. People can either book through the National Booking System or some services are contacting patients directly.  If you are eligible for your booster, you can book your appointment through the National Booking System - either the website or by calling 119. The NBS can be accessed here: [Book or manage your coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/)  If you can't see a local service this may mean it is contacting patients directly - please check our website to see the latest list of services: [East Sussex vaccination services - Sussex Health & Care Partnership (sussexhealthandcare.uk)](https://www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/keepsussexsafe/sussex-covid-19-vaccination-programme/phase-3/where-can-i-get-my-autumn-booster/east-sussex-gp-led-vaccination-services/) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Two key updates for the programme this week** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Last Monday two key announcements were made for the programme:   * 40 to 49 year olds are now eligible for a booster vaccination when they reach six months from their second dose; * 16 and 17 year olds who are not in an at risk group should be offered a second dose, 12 weeks or more following the first vaccine dose.   The move has been taken in order to reduce mortality, morbidity and hospitalisations from COVID-19 over the 2021 to 2022 winter period and through 2022, as well as to minimise the COVID-19 case infection rate and the chance of new variants emerging.  We are expecting the operational guidance from NHSE and national protocol, and expect both groups to be able to start to arrange their vaccines this week. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Increase in bookable appointments at Sovereign Harbour Community Centre in Eastbourne** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | From this week, there has been an increase in the number of bookable appointments at the Sovereign Harbour Community Centre.  The service has increased the amount of appointments to ensure that people can arrange their vaccination over the coming weeks.  To enable this, the walk in service has changed and is now only available for first and second doses. Booster vaccinations must be booked in advance.  If you are eligible you can check out these new appointments by visiting [Book or manage your coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/) or call 119.  If you are yet to have your first or your second dose, you can walk into the service from 10am to 3pm - no appointment needed. Please come forward and receive your vital protection. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Parents and carers urged to protect their two-and three-year olds against flu** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The NHS is calling parents of 2 to 3-year-old pre-school child to please make an appointment with your GP practice for them to have their flu vaccine.     The nasal spray flu vaccine is free on the NHS for:   * children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2021 – born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2019 * all primary school children (reception to year 6) * all year 7 to year 11 children in secondary school * children aged 2 to 17 years with long-term health conditions   Three-year-old year Alana was vaccinated in October, her mother Sabahat Hassan, said: “It’s really important that my daughter gets the flu jab each year as I don’t want her to become unnecessarily unwell.   “I also know that children can be super spreaders, and the last thing I would like would be for my parents to become unwell because I did not take up the opportunity to vaccinate my child.”   Even if your child had a flu vaccination last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended that they have the flu vaccine each year to boost their immunity. | | | |