



March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Pharmacy First – an NHS service being offered from pharmacies across England for children and adults

With absence and attendance being a high priority for all schools and nurseries, I am writing to let you know about an NHS service which pharmacies across England are offering for children (as well as adults) called **Pharmacy First**.

What is Pharmacy First?

This service enables children and adults to get quick access to healthcare advice as they can walk into a pharmacy and access the service. The person will then be offered a consultation with a pharmacist in a private consultation room. This service takes away the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment and may help ensure children get well and back to school as quickly as possible, potentially positively impacting attendance rates.

The service supports the following conditions:

- **Earache** (aged 1 to 17 years)
- **Impetigo** (aged 1 year and over)
- **Infected insect bites** (aged 1 year and over)
- **Sore throats** (aged 5 years and over)
- **Shingles** (aged 18 years and over)
- **Sinusitis** (aged 12 years and over)
- **Urinary tract infections** (UTIs) in women (aged 16 to 64 years)

The pharmacist will provide advice and, if clinically necessary, offer an NHS medicine to treat the condition (these medicines are supplied free of charge to children under 16 years, with the normal [NHS prescription charge rules](#) applying to people aged 16 or over). The pharmacy will then send an electronic message to the person's GP surgery so their health record can be updated.

Should the pharmacist be unable to help, they will direct the person to their GP surgery or other health professional as appropriate.

A summary of the service and further information is available at nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT OUR MEDICATION POLICY WILL REMAIN THE SAME WITHIN SCHOOL. MEDICATION WILL ONLY BE ADMINISTERED BY SCHOOL STAFF, IF IT HAS BEEN PRESCRIBED 4 X TIMES A DAY AND IS IN THE ORIGINAL PACKAGING, WITH THE PHARMACY LABEL SHOWING.

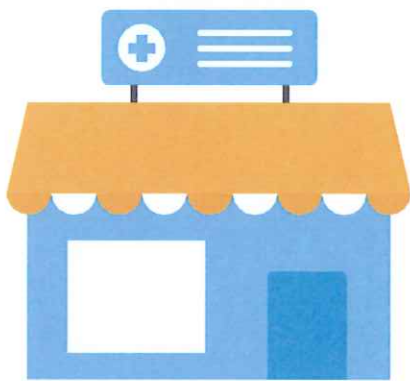
A REMINDER OF OUR POLICY IS DETAILED IN THE LINK BELOW:

<https://www.bartonseagraveprimaryschool.org/policies/>

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

Did you know that pharmacies can now offer clinical appointments with medication available if required for four clinical conditions particularly relevant to school age children?



- **Earache** (children aged 1-17)
- **Sore throat** (over 5s)
- **Infected insect bites** (over 1s)
- **Impetigo** (over 1s)

Think 'Pharmacy First'

GP practices are busy and it can be difficult to get a same-day GP appointment. When your child is off sick from school with any of the above conditions, by going straight to your local pharmacy you can have a consultation with a trained clinical professional and receive advice and even medication if it is needed, meaning they could be on the road to recovery and back at school as soon as possible.



For more information, speak with your local community pharmacy.

To find your nearest pharmacy, see: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/pharmacy/find-a-pharmacy>

Or scan the QR code:

