



Blackwater Medical Centre Newsletter

September 2026

Covid and Flu Vaccinations 2026

Patients who are eligible can now book their Covid and/or Flu vaccinations. Please contact reception in the first instance, but please be mindful of the morning rush and therefore do not call between 8am - 10am.

Accurx Scribe

Your GP may ask to use a “scribe” or “Accurx Scribe” during your appointment. A scribe acts as a note taker and helps GP’s write up their notes from your consultation, meaning they can focus more on speaking to you and less on the computer screen

For more information, you can visit our Facebook or website page. Alternatively, you can ask for a leaflet at Reception or view our noticeboard.

New Single Integrated Community MSK and Pain Service

From 1 April 2026, Mid and South Essex ICB launched a new single integrated Community MSK and Pain Service to help improve access, experience and outcomes for patients as you can refer yourselves. The service is designed to ensure:

- patients are seen sooner
- more care is delivered out of hospital and within the community
- a reduction in unnecessary acute activity – freeing services up to focus on more complex patient care (i.e. surgical interventions).

The service will be provided by Cora Health working in partnership with Provide CIC. This service will provide a single, integrated pathway for adults (over 16) across all mid and south Essex covering:

- Single Point of Access for all routine MSK, Orthopaedic, Rheumatology and Pain referrals
- Tier 1 and 2 physiotherapies
- Pain Management
- Rheumatology
- Surgical provision (carpal tunnel, podiatric surgery)

There is information about this new service on our website and Facebook, including a QR code. Patients can also call 01268 904102

Blood Tests – Important Notice

Please be advised that if patients have their blood tests done outside of the Mid Essex area, the surgery **do not** get the results, and it can take us several days for us to track them down. If a hospital consultant has requested blood tests, the surgery also **does not** receive the results, so patients will need to get the information directly from them, or as part of their next review with the consultant.

Samples (urine, stools, bloods, swabs, nail clippings etc)

Please be advised that samples are collected from the Blackwater Medical Centre reception approximately at midday Monday - Friday

Phone Option to Cancel Appointments

We now have a phone system in place with the option to cancel appointments and patients are respectfully reminded to use this system to cancel their appointments, should they be unable to keep them.

Friends and Family Test – August 2026

You may receive a text message after your appointments, asking you to rate the service you experienced. In August we had 371 responses, with 307 patients rating the service they received as “Very Good”. At the other end of the scale, 6 patients rated “Very Poor”. The surgery is constantly monitoring these responses and will improve the service wherever possible. Thank you to all patients who respond as your feedback matters to us!

New look NHS App

Find out about improvements that make it easier for patients to find the NHS App services they need. The changes, based on feedback from patients and staff, include:

- Appointment information has now been brought together under ‘Appointments, including consultation notes and events’ under your ‘Appointment notes’
- Under ‘Book an appointment’, users can ‘Ask about a health problem’ to contact their GP about a health issue without booking an appointment

Visit the NHS App help and share walk-through videos showing how to use the App. This is part of the 10-Year Health Plan for England’s drive to improve, and increase usage of the App. You can also visit our website for further information and appropriate links (under latest news).

Forthcoming Events:

Community in a Cup

United Reform Church, 53 Station Road, Burnham, Thursday 17th September 2.00pm – 4.00pm

United Reform Church, Market Hill, Maldon, Tuesday 29th September 10.00am – 12.00pm

The Mayor’s Tea Party (in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support)

Everyone invited to attend this event on Friday 25th September from 10.00am at Maldon Town Hall, Market Hill, Maldon CM9 4RL

Remembrance Sunday Service 2026

Please note the High Street will be closed to vehicles from 10.00am on Sunday 8th November for this year’s Remembrance Sunday Service at 10.50am