

Measles

The South West of England is currently experiencing an increased incidence of measles outbreaks. This is of concern as whilst this highly contagious viral disease is normally only a very unpleasant illness, it can lead to serious complications. Recently there have been a number of people hospitalised for critical care with measles pneumonitis and measles encephalitis.

The MMR vaccination is normally given to children at 1 year of age with a second vaccination, or “booster” at 3 years and 4 months. However, if an individual aged up to 29 years has not had both vaccinations, they should now do so, particularly if they are planning to travel to epidemic countries in Europe (Germany, Italy and Romania).

To make it easier for unvaccinated patients to become vaccinated, in addition to visiting your own GP, the Affinity collaboration of practices (Fallodon Way, Greenway, Helios, Monks Park, Sea Mills and Westbury-on-Trym) are willing to vaccinate each other’s patients including during their early morning, evening or weekend appointment sessions – please see below. To make an appointment, ring your usual practice in the normal way, but ask for an “Affinity” appointment at your chosen location and time. Your usual reception team can advise of you of current appointment availability.

Affinity morning, evening and weekend appointments are as follows:

Monday	Fallodon Way: 2.10 – 15.40pm or 6.30 -7 .00pm Helios and Sea Mills: all day
Tuesday	Westbury-on-Trym: 7.30 – 8.00 am Fallodon Way: 6.30 - 7.00pm Helios and Sea Mills: – all day
Wednesday	Westbury-on-Trym: 7.30 – 8.00 am Monks Park: 9.15 – 9.30 am Greenway: 1.00 – 3.00pm Helios and Sea Mills: all day
Thursday	Fallodon Way: 10.40 – 10.50 am or 6.30 - 7.00pm Helios and Sea Mills: all day
Friday	Monks Park: 12 noon – 12.15 pm Helios and Sea Mills: all day
Saturday	The Saturday clinics rotate between Fallodon Way, Greenway, Monks Park and Westbury-on-Trym surgeries and there would normally be a nurse available 9am until noon, able to give vaccinations.

Also at risk are 16 – 25 year olds and you may well receive an invitation from your own practice to attend for vaccination if the records indicate that you have not received both 1st and 2nd doses of the vaccination.