



## Winter Vaccines Issue 3

December 2025

# Winter Vaccine Programme

As the 2025-26 national winter vaccine programme enters the final weeks, NHS Forth Valley's vaccination teams continue to offer eligible patients, carers and health and social care workers the opportunity to receive their winter vaccination ahead of the festive holiday period.

To date NHS Forth Valley vaccination teams have delivered 25,000 covid vaccines, just shy of 70000 adult flu vaccines, and 28000 flu vaccines to preschool and school aged children. Engagement in the programme has been positive despite indications that uptake this year has declined nationally to align more with pre-pandemic levels. Final visits to housebound patients and those newly registered in care-homes continues into early December with real focus on targeting those most vulnerable with reminder invitations and further opportunities to come forward. This also includes those children most at risk of flu and covid.



From the 8<sup>th</sup> December the NHS Immunisation Service will continue with booked appointments and reschedule/drop-in opportunities across the majority of vaccination sites for eligible patients and staff. Information on specific drop-in locations and opening times can be found at [NHS Forth Valley – Winter Vaccines](#). Participating community pharmacies continue to offer booked

appointment opportunities throughout December which extends to childhood and school flu as well as all eligible adults.

NHS and Social care flu vaccine uptake remains high on the national agenda, with increased scrutiny on NHS Boards and HSCPs to both encourage and support staff in accessing flu vaccination.

Updated clinic information for staff and Managers can be found at [NHS Forth Valley – Staff Vaccinations](#) or click the QR code for info



Further details on the national 2025 covid-19 vaccine and flu vaccine programmes can be found at

[The coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine | NHS inform](#) and [Flu vaccine | NHS inform](#)

## Vaccine Uptake

Flu Uptake in the period to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025 (\* surveillance date taken for Health and Social Care Staff)

Cohort	NHS Forth Valley Uptake(%)	NHS Scotland Average Uptake(%)
Older adult care home residents	81.2	78.2
Aged 75 years and over	70.4	72.3
Aged 65-74 years	64.6	58.0
With weakened immune system 18+	46.2	40.2
At risk of flu (18-64years)	36.4	29.5
All healthcare workers*	33.6	33.0
Social care staff *	15.6	13.6

<b>Total Adult eligible population</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>47.1</b>
<b>At risk 6months-2years</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>32.7</b>
<b>Preschool</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>46.8</b>
<b>Primary school</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>59.5</b>
<b>Secondary school</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>38.6</b>
<b>Total childhood eligible population</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>48.9</b>


**Covid Uptake in the period to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

<b>Cohort</b>	<b>NHS Forth Valley Uptake(%)</b>	<b>NHS Scotland Average Uptake(%)</b>
<b>Older adult care home residents</b>	<b>77.1</b>	<b>74.9</b>
<b>Aged 75 years +</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>65.9</b>
<b>With weakened immune system 6mth - 74 years</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>31.1</b>
<b>Total eligible population</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>59.2</b>

**Eligibility Reminder**

# Eligible groups for winter vaccinations 2025

## Flu vaccine

- Children aged **6 months-2 years** with an eligible health condition 
- Children aged **2-5 years** (and not yet in school), at 1 September 2025 
- All primary and secondary school pupils 
- People aged **18-64** years with an eligible health condition 
- People aged **65+** 
- All NHS staff 
- Health and social care workers in direct contact with patients or service users 
- People in long-stay residential care home or other long-stay care facility 
- Unpaid or young carers 
- Household contacts of someone with a weakened immune system 
- Poultry workers and bird handlers 
- Pregnant women 

## COVID-19 vaccine

and

## Flu vaccine

- People aged **6 months+** with a weakened immune system  
- Residents in care homes for older adults  
- People aged **75+**  

**[www.nhsinform.scot/wintervaccines](http://www.nhsinform.scot/wintervaccines)**  
 Information correct at time of publication: October 2025

Eligibility for winter vaccines is based on advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). This guidance is reviewed every year so it's important to check what vaccines you are eligible for this year.

