

27 May 2022

[www.keeptheislandsafe.org](http://www.keeptheislandsafe.org)

**Please share any of the following messages with your networks**

## Half term emergency food voucher scheme

Isle of Wight Council has announced [delivery of a one-off emergency food voucher to help Islanders](#) in urgent need over this half term.

The voucher is worth £15 per child and can be spent in local supermarkets. Residents need to check eligibility and apply by calling our COVID-19 Helpline on 01983 823600.

Eligible families must apply directly to the helpline before 4pm on Wednesday 1 June to claim their voucher. The voucher can be emailed or posted out.

The scheme is available for:

- families eligible for benefits-related free school meals
- children with a social worker
- children open to early help
- 2 to 4 year-olds eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium

Please share our [Facebook post](#) about the scheme.

## Other useful contacts for support

- The Isle of Wight COVID-19 helpline: 01983 823600
- [Islehelp.me](http://Islehelp.me)
- Citizens Advice: 0800 144 88 48 or [citizensadviceiw.org.uk](http://citizensadviceiw.org.uk)
- [Help through crisis](#)
- Mental health support: [iwmentalhealth.co.uk](http://iwmentalhealth.co.uk) and NHS111 or [get medical help - NHS 111](#)
- [keeptheislandsafe.org/support](http://keeptheislandsafe.org/support)

## Have a safe half term

As the Island gets busier please remind residents that COVID-19 is still in circulation in the community. Please encourage everyone you know to help alleviate pressures on the NHS. The [keeptheislandsafe.org website](http://keeptheislandsafe.org) is still kept up to date.

We have been asked to share a couple of key NHS messages ahead of the bank holiday:

### Get the right medical help (graphic attached)

Make sure you get the right medical help this half term.

- 999. Dial 999 for life-threatening emergencies
- 111. If you need medical help fast or you think you need to go to an Emergency Department (A&E), call NHS111\* first to get clinical advice or direction to the most

appropriate service for treatment. Trained mental health professionals are available 24 hours a day.

- GP or Pharmacy. For all other health needs contact your pharmacy or GP practice. You can also access NHS advice and medical support at [111.nhs.uk](https://111.nhs.uk).

\*If you have difficulties communicating or hearing, you can use the NHS 111 British Sign Language interpreter service via [www.nhs.uk/111](https://www.nhs.uk/111) or call 18001111 on a textphone.

### **Plan ahead for bank holiday weekend prescriptions**

If you need to pick up your prescriptions over the Platinum Jubilee bank holiday please plan ahead for the extended Jubilee bank holiday weekend, Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June.

Patients who take regularly prescribed medication are asked to request their repeat prescriptions in plenty of time. You can find a list of Isle of Wight pharmacy opening times [on this page](#).

Please share this [Facebook post from the IOW NHS Trust](#) with your residents.

## **COVID-19 vaccination update**

It's still critical we all get jabbed with first, second and booster doses, not just to protect ourselves, but also our loved ones and our communities. Full information about the [COVID-19 vaccination is available on the NHS website](#).

The Riverside Centre, Newport PO30 2QR is still offering walk-in appointments every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 8 am to 7.30 pm.

If you would prefer you can book an appointment by calling 119 or [online](#).

Islanders can also call the local COVID-19 Vaccination Helpline on 0300 561 0018 to find their nearest site (including walk-ins and pop-ups) and book their next appointment.

### **COVID-19 vaccination for children**

All children aged 5 to 11 are eligible for their first COVID-19 vaccination. The vaccine is a specially developed version for children.

Appointments for children must be booked via the [national booking system](#).

## **Platinum Jubilee events**

There are many events on around the Island for Jubilee and we have put together a (non-exhaustive) [list of events on our website](#).

Our [libraries](#) and [museums](#) are also open with many free activities for families.

Thank you for your support