

Digital Health

The NHS App is a great resource to find your information in your own time, without needing to call or contact the practice. You don't need to go to your bank to check your bank balance these days – you just need to check an app or login online. The NHS App gives you this same easy to use service but for your health records.

There's a lot of things that you can control or change through the NHS App, without needing to contact your practice, for example:

- Order repeat prescriptions
- Select your nominated pharmacy, so that your prescriptions always go to your favourite or local pharmacy
- View and make amendments to your health records
- Access to your laboratory results (contact us to arrange access to these if needed)
- Manage your organ donation decisions
- Decide if data from your health records are used for research and planning



If you haven't yet downloaded the NHS App—please do so!

NHS Cervical Screening Programme – Digital results launching September 2025

In September, those who have a negative test result will be notified of this by an NHS App message. It will also appear as an NHS App notification. If the NHS App message isn't read within 72 hours, a letter will be sent as a failsafe.

Abnormal result letters will continue for the time being to be delivered by post.

This change follows the successful rollout of digital invitations and reminders in June 2025, where since the launch, 9 out of every 10 invitations are being sent digitally, with the remainder being sent by post.

This change is being introduced by the West Midlands Screening Team

Doctors in Training

As most readers will know, Ryeland Surgery has been actively involved in training young doctors for decades. It is a key component of our mission statement: "Our aim is to deliver first class patient care from a motivated and supportive team and to be an inspirational training and research hub".

Doctors come to us at various stages in their training career. All have already qualified as doctors from their medical schools. The earliest they can come to us is in their second year as a doctor (foundation year two). The latest is in their final year of training as a GP, following which they can, if successful, work as a fully qualified GP. The shortest time anyone can become a GP is 10 years - 5 at medical school and 5 in doctor training posts. Our latest group of trainee doctors started in August - Drs Nadeem, Afolayan, Arinze-Onyia and Sheeran.

As well as doctors in training, we also host medical students from Keele University and nursing students from Worcester University. This gives these students vital exposure to work in the primary care setting. Many leave us inspired to pursue a career in general practice.

As a new initiative we are about to accept students from the newly founded Three Counties Medical School at the University of Worcester. We are one of very few practices in the county taking on students from this new medical school, an exciting development.

Medical students are supervised and supported by our qualified, experienced GPs at all times.



Ryeland
SURGERY

www.ryelandsurgery.co.uk

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter

We are delighted to announce a new recruit to our team of GPs, Dr Ruth Price. Ruth has just completed (with flying colours) her GP training with us, so many of you will have met her already over the last twelve months. As one of the best trainees we have had, we are very pleased she has accepted a permanent post with us. She has young children and will be working just two days per week to start with, Mondays and Wednesdays. We hope she has a long and rewarding career at Ryeland Surgery.

New Build



Work is progressing well at the site but, as is so often the case with large projects, there have been delays and we now expect to move into the building early next year. We have monthly meetings at the site with the project managers, surveyors, builders and architect and are faced with many decisions. Recent ones include wall colours, flooring styles, lighting fixtures and splash-back colours! We politely request that people do not visit the site to take a look - traffic is already heavy with the contractors coming and going and we do not want to add to that.

10 Year Health Plan

The government has published its 10 year plan for the NHS. It has three main themes

1. Moving care from hospitals to local communities
2. Preventing illness, not just treating it

Realising the potential of digital technology.

At 168 pages, it is a long document. There is much on vision, but less on detailed proposals as to how that vision will be achieved. These are just some of the highlights:

- There will be a move to "Neighbourhood Health" serving a population of about 50,000. Community services, including general practice, are to work together.
- The "majority" of outpatient care should happen in the community.
- Patients with complex care needs will have a personalised care plan in place within two years covering both their treatment and holistic wishes.

AI is to be used more widely and a Single Patient Record (SPR) is to be available on the NHS App by 2028.

As with every new development in the NHS, we at Ryeland Surgery will take a positive attitude to the plan and will work hard to make it work as well as possible for our patients and staff.



General Practice Survey 2025

The 2025 GP Patient Survey results have been published. This takes place every year. Questionnaires are sent to random households. For our surgery, 287 were sent out and 109 returned, just 0.6% of our practice population. Given that some of those replying may have hardly used the surgery, the survey is unlikely to be highly accurate. Having said that, we are proud of our results. Some of the headline figures are as follows:

90% find the reception and administration team at the practice helpful (national result 88%)

75% felt they waited about the right length of time for their last GP appointment (national result 67%)

92% say the healthcare professional they saw or spoke to was good at treating them with care and concern during their last general practice appointment (national result 86%)

94% had confidence and trust in the healthcare professional they saw or spoke to during their last general practice appointment (national result 93%)

80% describe their overall experience of this GP practice as good (national result 75%)

A key area for improvement is the ease of getting through on the phone. We are planning changes to address this.



Patient Feedback

Friends and Family Test forms are offered to patients randomly as they attend the practice, and a random selection are also sent a text asking for their feedback. If you receive a feedback form please do complete and return it.

Results for Summer 2025 are as follows: -

Very good	95.3%
Good	4.7%
Neither good nor poor	0%
Poor	0%
very poor	0%



Flu and Covid Vaccinations

As in previous years we are grateful to Earl Mortimer College for the kind use of the High School again this year. Flu and Covid vaccination clinics are planned for the following Saturdays:

4th October

11th October

18th October

Flu Vaccine

From 1 September 2025

- pregnant women
- all children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2025
- primary school aged children (from Reception to Year 6)
- secondary school aged children (from Year 7 to Year 11)
- all children in clinical risk groups aged from 6 months to less than 18 years

From October 2025

- those aged 65 years and over
- those aged 18 years to under 65 years in clinical risk groups
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- carers in receipt of carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals

Please note the eligible criteria for Covid Vaccination has changed from previous years

Covid Vaccine

For autumn 2025, COVID-19 vaccination will be offered to:

- adults aged 75 years and over
- residents in care homes for older adults
- individuals who are immunosuppressed aged 6 months and over

This represents a change from the autumn 2024 programme, which also included adults aged 65 to 74 and all those aged 6 months and over in a clinical risk group.

All eligible patients will receive an invitation by text, phone, or letter. To help ensure a smooth process for everyone, we kindly ask that you book your appointment online if possible. If you are in an eligible group and have not received your invitation by 25 September, please contact the practice at that time. We respectfully request that you refrain from contacting us to chase invitations before this date.

Patients who are housebound (can only leave the house by ambulance) will receive the offer of a vaccination at home.

