

Park Farm Medical Centre and Vernon Street Surgery

Infection Control Annual Statement 2026

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year in accordance with the requirements of The Health and Social Care Act 2008 *Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance*.

It summarises:

- Any infection transmission incidents and any action taken (these will have been reported in accordance with our Significant Event procedure)
- Details of any infection control audits undertaken, and actions undertaken
- Details of any risk assessments undertaken for prevention and control of infection
- Details of staff training
- Any review and update of policies, procedures and guidelines

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Lead

Park Farm Medical Centre has a Lead for Infection Prevention and Control: Dr Caroline Boshell (CAB) (Senior Partner).

The IPC Lead is supported by: Nicola Stills (NS) (Practice Nurse).

Infection transmission incidents (Significant Events)

Significant events (which may involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events) are investigated in detail to see what can be learnt and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements. All significant events are reviewed in the quarterly Clinical Meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

As a result of these events, Park Farm Medical Centre has:

- Continued with an annual infection control update for both clinical and non-clinical staff via online Bluestream training
- Ensured Infection Control Guidance remains accessible to all staff.

Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit was completed by NS and CAB 26th January 2026.

"We recently carried out a full infection control audit at our practices. Following a previous review, we have changed our cleaning provider, and the standard of cleaning has significantly improved. All areas are now cleaned regularly, with daily records maintained.

Positive findings include correctly labelled sharps containers, well-displayed infection control posters, and new wipeable blinds in consultation rooms at Park Farm.

Some longer-term building improvements, such as replacing older worktops, sinks, and fixtures, are planned and will be completed in phases. Minor repairs are also being addressed.

Patient safety remains our top priority, and we will continue to regularly audit and maintain our premises to ensure a safe, clean environment."

Priorities –

- Replace baby changing facilities at both sites asap
- Ceiling tiles to be replaced which have been damaged during leak.

The Practice plan to undertake the following audits in 2026:

- Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit
- Staff handwashing audit
- Aseptic technique audit

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed. In the last year the following risk assessments were carried out / reviewed:

Legionella (Water) Risk Assessment: The practice has conducted/reviewed its water safety risk assessment to ensure that the water supply does not pose a risk to patients, visitors or staff.

Immunisation: As a practice we ensure that all of our relevant staff are up to date with their Hepatitis B immunisations and offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (i.e. MMR, Seasonal Flu). We take part in the National Immunisation campaigns for patients and offer vaccinations in house and via home visits to our patient population.

Curtains: Disposable curtains are used in clinical rooms and replaced annually. All curtains are regularly reviewed and replaced if damaged.

Training

All our staff receive annual training in infection prevention and control.

The nursing team attends an annual Infection Control Update or complete an annual e-learning update.

Policies

All Infection Prevention and Control related policies are in date for this year.

Policies relating to Infection Prevention and Control are available to all staff and are reviewed and updated annually, and all are amended on an on-going basis as current advice, guidance and legislation changes.

Infection Control policies are available on the Practice Shared Drive for all staff to access.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with this Statement and their roles and responsibilities under this.

Review date

26/01/27

Responsibility for Review

The Infection Prevention and Control Lead and the Practice Manager are responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement.

Practice Manager

Simon Jones

Infection, Prevention Control Lead

Dr. Caroline Boshell (GP Partner)

Infection, Prevention Control Support

Nicola Stills (Practice Nurse)

For and on behalf of Park Farm Medical Centre