

Frequently Asked Questions for Host Families

The following frequently asked questions have been developed to provide host families with further information regarding the *initial health assessment* and *screening processes* available within Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. Please contact your Local Authority (respective contact details provided in the response to question 6 below) should you have any enquiries relating to accessing benefits/employment/education.

1. What support can my guests expect from the NHS?

Your guests are entitled to access to all NHS services akin to all residents in Wales. Additional health screening appointments will also be offered free of charge.

2. How will they register with a GP?

Please check the procedure with your local GP practice and ensure individuals are registered as soon as possible. To register they will need name, date of birth, address and a contact number. A passport would be helpful to confirm identity.

3. What are the initial health assessments?

The Health Inclusion Service is a nurse-led specialist NHS community team. They will complete the initial health assessment with your guests by telephone usually within 24 hours of the health board being notified of their arrival. The initial call is to assess for any urgent medical or medication needs, comprehensive screening assessments will subsequently be completed at Innovation House, Caldicot, Monmouthshire, NP26 3DG.

4. Why are guests offered additional screening appointments?

Health Care Services, vaccination opportunities and access to screening for infectious diseases may differ between the Ukraine and Wales. As new arrivals to Wales, we want to ensure that all your guests' health care needs are met. This will help to facilitate access to treatment where necessary and to protect against vaccine preventable infections.

5. When can my guests expect to be contacted for a health screening appointment?

The Local Authority will notify the health board of your guests' arrival. The Health Inclusion Service will contact your guests by telephone usually within 24 hours of the health board receiving arrival notification. This is to identify any urgent medical needs; medication needs or respiratory symptoms.

Within 48 hours the booking team will contact your guests by telephone to arrange a health screening appointment.

Your guests will also be contacted separately to arrange a Chest X-Ray. The Chest X-Ray is an essential part of their health screening.

****Please note these appointments are in addition to any offered by the GP practice****

6. If guests have not been contacted how can appointments be organised?

Please ensure you have informed the Local Authority of your guests' arrival. If you have not informed your Local Authority, please contact them as soon as possible via the following contact details:

Council	Web page	Contact telephone number and email
Blaenau Gwent CBC www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk	www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/resident/ukraine-how-you-can-help/	info@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk 01495 311556 (General council number)
Caerphilly CBC www.caerphilly.gov.uk	www.caerphilly.gov.uk/My-Council/support-for-ukraine	ukrainesupport@caerphilly.gov.uk 01443 815588 (General council number)
Monmouthshire CC www.monmouthshire.gov.uk	Supporting the people of Ukraine - Monmouthshire	ukrainesupport@monmouthshire.gov.uk 01633 644644 (General council number)
Newport City Council www.newport.gov.uk	Ukraine Support Newport City Council	info@newport.gov.uk (01633) 656 656 (General council number)
Torfaen CBC www.torfaen.gov.uk	Ukraine Crisis Torfaen County Borough Council	support.ukraine@torfaen.gov.uk 01495 766097

****If your Local Authority are aware of your guests arrival but you have not been contacted by the Health Inclusion Service or the bookings team within 48 hours, please contact the Health Board via email providing your name, address and contact number, and your guests' names, address and contact number using the following address: ABB.UkrainianResettlement@wales.nhs.uk****

7. What conditions are being screened for?

We will be providing screening for Tuberculosis (TB), a bacterial infection which mainly affects the lungs and is treated with antibiotics. We will also screen for infections which can be spread through contact with infected blood and body fluids such as Hepatitis B and C infections which affect the liver and HIV.

8. Why is it important to screen for these conditions?

As the Health Care System within Ukraine differs, individuals may not have had access to screening and treatment for these conditions. People who have these conditions may not experience any symptoms and as such, it is important to screen for them to ensure individuals are offered early diagnosis and treatment. Please encourage your guests to attend for screening, you are welcome to attend with your guests to support them through the screening process.

9. What tests will be completed?

All individuals will be screened for symptoms suggestive of underlying ill health or infection.

All individuals over 11 will be offered a Chest X-ray and a blood test for TB.

Children under 11 will have a blood test and be screened for symptoms and if required will be offered a chest X-ray.

Children 2 and under will be offered a Mantoux skin test for TB.

We will also be offering screening for infections such as Hepatitis B and C via a simple blood test.

10. Where will these tests be completed?

When the booking team contacts you to organise the screening appointment, they will confirm location and times. Screening is carried out at Innovation House. This is an appointment only service. Please only attend on the date and time given.

11. What if guests need to change their appointment?

If your guest cannot attend their appointment for any reason including if they are unwell please contact Aneurin Bevan University Health board by email: ABB.UkrainianResettlement@wales.nhs.uk.

The booking team will be in touch to rearrange the appointment.

12. What If Individuals have previously had an X-ray or health screening in another country?

Unfortunately, as we are unable to access X-ray results from another country or view previously completed health screening results, all individuals will be invited to attend for health screening assessments in Wales.

13. How will they get their results?

Results will be provided to the individual or parent/guardian of children by the specific teams that conducted the screening tests. If we hold a valid email address, result letters will be provided by email via a secure portal. If we do not hold a valid email address, results letters are issued via the postal service.

14. How long until the results are received?

Additional resource has been deployed to expedite the notification process and we anticipate the following timescales for results, however these may vary due a range of factors:

Screening Test	Anticipated timescale for results	Communication of result
Mantoux (TB test for children)	Results provided on return appointment (to assess) scheduled for 48hrs following initial test.	In person on return appointment

Tuberculosis (TB)	4 working days following screening	Valid email address – email via secure portal.
Blood Borne Viruses (BBV)	2 working days following screening	No email address – postal service (anticipated timescale increased due to postal service).
Chest X-Ray	3 working days following x-ray	

Positive results will be fed back to the individual by the specific team so they can arrange treatment and any follow up appointments.

Any further follow up needed from the general health screening will be directed to the GP practice.

15. Will my guests be offered vaccinations?

Routine and childhood vaccinations will be offered via the GP once the initial health assessment has been completed as per the UK vaccination schedule.

Covid Vaccines will be offered via the Mass Vaccination Centres – full details of the location will be provided when the appointment is offered..

BCG (TB vaccination) will be discussed and organised via the TB service if required.

Useful leaflets on covid and routine vaccinations can be found in English, Ukrainian and Russian via the following link: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/immunisation-and-vaccines/vaccination-accessible-information/vaccination-leaflets-and-information-for-arrivals-from-ukraine/>

16. Do children need any health checks before attending school?

The requirement for screening is a directive from the Chief Medical Officer for Welsh Government.

For those under 11

They are able to enter education without being assessed providing they are well (though they will still be routinely contacted by TB teams/primary care for an assessment). In this age group there is a significantly reduced risk of transmission, and should the individual have active TB they are likely to be unwell, hence we are only advising that they enter education if they are well. If a child is unwell and has not yet been assessed for TB they should be encouraged to contact their GP as a matter of priority.

Individuals of secondary school age and over

*Individuals should **not** enter an education setting prior to being assessed for active TB. If an individual has entered education prior to being assessed for active TB, then the individual should be prioritised for a TB assessment, however, that individual should remain in education unless they are unwell.*

17. Who confirms the results with the school?

We are asking that medical professionals undertaking the initial TB assessment provide confirmation of the assessment and the absence of active TB to the parent/guardian. The individual or their parent/ guardian will be responsible for communicating any results with the school and hosts.

18. Is screening mandatory/can we mandate screening?

Screening is an offer, and not mandatory. We cannot mandate that an individual is subjected to screening.

19. Where do I find out further information on other health services?

Please see the NHS services for you and your family – this is available in English, Ukrainian and Russian. This leaflet can be found here:

<https://abuhb.nhs.wales/files/clinical-futures/nhs-services-for-you-and-your-family/>

Information regarding child and family health can be found here:

<https://abbhealthiertogether.cymru.nhs.uk/>

20. Where do I find out about the conditions you are screening for?

<https://www.thetruthabouttb.org/>

<https://www.hepb.org/>

<http://hepctrust.org.uk/>

21. Who can I contact if I have any further questions?

You can contact Aneurin Bevan University Health board by email: ABB.UkrainianResettlement@wales.nhs.uk.

This mailbox is monitored daily, and we aim to swiftly respond to enquiries.