



# Cranwell Primary School Newsletter Page 1

## Allergies—Urgent! Please read!

We currently have a number of children in school who have severe allergies. Please can I ask parents to ensure that packed lunches or snacks **do not include nuts/peanut butter/sesame seeds, chocolate spread etc.**

Please make sure you contact school if your child has any new allergies. Many thanks for your support in this matter.

## Road Safety

A reminder to please take care driving in and around the school area.

Please remember there is a 5mph speed limit on the drive.

Parking in and around school is often congested at drop off and collection times, as are most schools around England. I ask all parents that you always consider where you park when dropping off and collecting your children. Yes, you may think you are parked sensibly and your car is not in the way or 'not harming anyone' where it is, but can children cross safely where you have parked? Will your car make it difficult for other cars to get past? Please spare a thought for all the local residents living around the school perimeter, especially in Cherry Tree Crescent, Baghdad Road, Delhi Square and the Costcutter car park.

Please can we show full consideration and ensure we do not park on, or obstruct any driveways or paths. School are aware of Lincolnshire Police's visits to these areas and are warning parents they are issuing tickets where appropriate. Many thanks for helping to respect our neighbours.

## Children to get out of cars on the Left

The one-way system in the morning is continuing to work really well with parents dropping their children off. Please make sure your child leaves their car via the passenger side of the car to avoid any accidents.

## Disabled Parking Considerations

We have limited disabled parking on the school premises, and we do have families who require these.

We are unable to enforce this but please be considerate and keep these spaces free for those that require them.

To avoid any misunderstanding when using the disabled bays please display your Blue Badge.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

## Vacancies

### Supply Midday Supervisors

Our School requires Supply Midday Supervising Assistants (MSA) to cover sickness and absence of current staff. The role will be for 1.5 hours on the days required : 11.45am to 1.15pm.

The successful candidates must be willing to help within the hall for lunches, including setting up the hall with tables and chairs, cleaning equipment, managing waste collection and supervising the children. The role will also include outside play duties involving supervising the children, structuring and arranging games and play activities for the children across the school.

Patience and good behaviour management skills are essential, along with a good sense of humour.

You will be supported by colleagues who are enthusiastic about their contribution to pupil development and table manners.

The appointment will be subject to both a full D.B.S. clearance and reference checks. Knowledge of Safeguarding and Child Protection would be an advantage, and training will be provided by the School.

Application forms are available at <https://www.cranwell.lincs.sch.uk/Downloads.asp>

### Supply 1:1 Teaching Assistants

Our School requires Supply 1:1 Teaching Assistants to cover sickness and absence of current staff. The roles if and when required are paid via a claim form.

The successful candidates must show good Maths, English and ICT skills.

Patience and good behaviour management skills are essential, along with a good sense of humour.

You will be supported by colleagues who are enthusiastic about their contribution to pupil development and manners.

The appointment will be subject to both a full D.B.S. clearance and reference checks. Knowledge of Safeguarding and Child Protection would be an advantage, and training will be provided by the School.

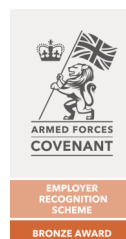
Application forms are available at <https://www.cranwell.lincs.sch.uk/Downloads.asp>

### Mobile Phones and Watches

We do not support children bringing mobile phones into school, however we do realise that some older children need them for safety reasons if they are walking home alone. If this is the case, phones must be left with the class teacher during the school day.

The school is not responsible for damage or loss of phones.

We do not allow watches into school which take photographs or have communication capabilities. Please understand this is for Safeguarding purposes.





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## Sink or Swim

A big thank you to the parents who have been and are currently helping the classes with teaching swimming on Mondays. Thank you to Mrs Louise Short for your donation of swimming goggles for our classes!

Why is learning to swim so important? - The most important reason is that swimming is the only sport which can save your child's life. Unfortunately, drowning is still one of the most common causes of accidental death in children. It is so important to remember that children who appear water confident are not always competent swimmers.

Additionally, swimming is great fun and children especially love getting in the water and enjoying themselves. Swimming also provides a number of benefits which can help to keep your children healthy, including healthy heart and lungs, and improving strength and flexibility, along with increasing stamina and improves balance and posture.

How do I make my child confident around water? This can start at any age. You are never too young to learn to swim. Children should be encouraged and helped to wet their faces, tummies, splash, blow bubbles, sing and play in the bath to get them used to the water. Family swimming sessions are another excellent way of building water confidence in pre-school/Key Stage One children.

Contact your local pool for family swimming sessions.

Sleaford Swimming Pool:  
<https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/north-kesteven/sleaford-leisure-centre/swimming>

Nocton Swimming Pool:  
<https://www.littleleisurecentre.com/activities-1>

Grantham Swimming Pool:  
<https://www.leisuresk.co.uk/learn-to-swim>

For teaching your child confidence in and around water, follow this link for ideas:  
<https://worldwideswimschool.com/teachers/water-confidence-for-timid-beginners/>

## Sensory Project

A really big thank you to all of the parents who have donated towards our sensory project in school. Through the raffles at the school Christmas Productions we managed to raise a fantastic £650! Thank you.

Also a big thank you to the parents who have either privately donated towards the fund, or donated items towards the Sensory Area. We will be continuing to raise money for this project.

## PTA—Thank you!

A really big thank you to the PTA for the fantastic Christmas events which were put on in December, including the Christmas Fayre, Father Christmas reading to the children, the travelling theatre and Father Christmas joining us on the last day of term.

Thank you to the PTA for donating £100 per class for the teachers to spend.

Special thanks to Jamie Angus (PTA treasurer) who has sadly had to step down from her position. Thank you for your hardwork and dedication, and we wish you well for the future.

## Next PTA Meeting

Our next PTA meeting is Thursday 7th March 2024 at 14:30. Please come along for a coffee and refreshments and join us in school.

## Thurston

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 17:30 parents of the children attending Thurston are requested to attend a meeting to prepare for the trip. Children will need to attend too.

The meeting will also discuss:

- medical procedures and emergency contact details for the trip
- permission paperwork
- a list of the items required and how you will need to pack.
- times for leaving and returning

This meeting is **vital** for the preparation for the trip and we cannot stress enough the importance to attend.

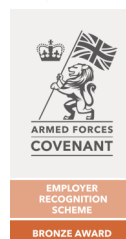
The meeting will take place in **Cranwell Primary School Hall at 17:30**.

Please note, children will not be able to attend the trip without the completion of the statutory forms.

## X— Twitter

Check out our fantastic twitter page at #@CranwellSchool

You can keep up to date with the exciting things going on in school by following our Twitter account on the school website and #@CranwellSchool





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Well done, Mr Kinsella!

Well done to Mr Kinsella who had been nominated by a parent for Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum's Hall of Fame Award Nominations for Jul-Dec. We are delighted to announce Mr Kinsella was nominated 'Winner' from the nominations.

Nominated Date - 21-07-2023

Nominee Name - Karl Kinsella ( Mr. K)

Nominee Service - Cranwell Primary School

## Nomination Details

Karl is a caretaker at Cranwell primary school.

My little boy has really struggled to be in school throughout the last 2 years and

Karl he has gone above and beyond to support him. Whilst he has never had a reason to have to help, my son quickly made a connection to him and Karl took this on board without even considering what was to happen over the following 2 years. My sons anxiety about being in school became quite sever and I found myself having to be in school with him daily.

Karl quickly realised that my son needed someone to help him whether that being someone to talk to, kick the football with him in the playground or give him a little job to do and this in turn allowed me to be able to have that little respite knowing my son was with someone he felt comfortable enough with to trust.

He would often pop in to the classroom throughout the day just to check in and make him aware that he was always available if he started to feel unsure about being in school. He has enabled my son to access his learning when we did not feel we would be able to even get him through the school gates.

There has been many occasions where his anxiety got the better of him and he would go into fight or flight mode, not once did Karl ever walk away from him and always made sure he felt his opinions mattered and were valued.

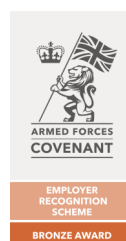
I can honestly say I do not know how we would have got through the last few years without him. As a caretaker not many people see the work he does within the school but for us as a family he is way more than just a caretaker, he has been a mentor and true role model for my son and for that I do not think we could ever thank him enough. He truly deserves to be recognised for his dedication to helping without even having to be asked.



Winner

More information can be found at:

[https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P\\_Award\\_HOF.php?YrFilter=23&Cur=&Find=](https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Award_HOF.php?YrFilter=23&Cur=&Find=)





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## Headlice

We have had a number of cases of head lice reported by parents.

Please see the link below to help prevent and treat.

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

## Uniform

### Remember—Name Everything!

Be aware that when you have a class of 30 children, the majority of white shirts are the same size and often from the same providers. Ties are identical! Shoes also look very similar. Trying to distinguish whose items are whose is very difficult without them being named!

Thank you for your help

Our School uniform policy can be found at

<https://www.cranwell.lincs.sch.uk/SchoolUniform.asp>

## Hair Tied Up

Please note, that children with long hair should have it tied up. We know from experience that most children with long hair leave the house with their hair tied up, however, it is often released by the time the children enter school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## No Dogs

Please can you take notice of the 'No Dogs' signs which are displayed at all entrances to the school property. If you are a dog owner, please ensure our pathways are kept clean of dog excrements, preventing upset of having to clean the mess off shoes. This is clearly a health and safety issue to all children within the school. Many thanks for your consideration in this matter.

Please note, dogs are not permitted on the school grounds, including the drive and the parent waiting area.

## Ordering Hot Meals

Please remember that infant classes are provided with Universal Infant Free School Meals. Please remember to order and outline any allergies. Children in Key Stage 2 currently can order hot meal lunches through Ideal School Meals, our food provider, or parents may wish to send in a packed lunch instead. Children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage One also receive a piece of fruit each day through a Government initiative.

## Healthy Snacks at Playtime

Just a gentle reminder that your child needs a healthy snack for break time and a water bottle to take into their class. Whilst some of the cereal bars do offer health benefits, they also contain a high level of sugar which is detrimental to your child's teeth, leading to tooth decay. Fresh fruit, vegetables, raisins or cheese for their morning snack are the

best choices and we would ask children to save their other snacks for lunchtime. If your child has access to fresh water throughout the day, then they are able to remain hydrated and concentration levels are improved, aiding good progression.

## Medical Info & Absences

If your child has a medical appointment, if possible, can you please send a note into the class teacher giving prior notice. Please notify the school office of all absences either by email or phone, stating reasons.

## If it Snows

If you are unsure whether the school will be open on a day when it snows, please listen to local radio stations, their respective websites and Parentmail which will all provide relevant information as to whether we are open or not. A decision sometimes can not be made before 8am, therefore remain at home until the latest time possible to safely travel to school. Please note, even when these establishments are contacted by school, it can often take a considerable time for the information to be available for broadcasting or uploading.

## Term Dates

### Academic Year 2023-24

Term 3 ends — Fri 9th Feb 2024

Term 4 : Mon 19th Feb — Thurs 28th March 2024

Term 5 : Tue 16th April—Fri 24th May 2024

Term 6 : Mon 3rd June—Fri 19th July 2024

### Academic Year 2024-25

Term 1 : Wed 4th Sept — Fri 18th October 2024

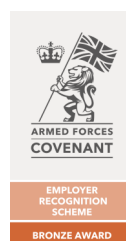
Term 2 : Tues 29th Oct — Thurs 19th Dec 2024

Term 3 : Mon 6th Jan — Fri 14th Feb 2025

Term 4 : Mon 24th Feb — Fri 4th April 2025

Term 5 : Tue 22nd April — Fri 23rd May 2025

Term 6 : Tue 3rd June — Tue 22nd July 2025







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## Timings of the School Day

School drop off is between 8:40am and 8:50am. School starts at 8:50am. Drop your child at the silver gates, and allow them to walk around to the green gate. School finishes at 3:20pm for all children.

Please note, this is when lessons end. Children will be out a few minutes after this point. Additionally, sometimes unforeseen things happen in class which result in the children coming out a few minutes later. Thank you for your understanding.

Please try not to stand immediately in front of the silver gates at the front of school. This will allow children to easily exit the school and locate their parents.

If you wish to speak with your class teacher, please make an appointment either by emailing or telephoning the school office, or see the member of staff at the gates at the end of the day.

## Requesting leave of absence / holidays in Term Time — School Attendance Policy

Authorising absence is a policy decision. I must work within the policy adopted by the Local authority and school. All school absence is a serious matter monitored by the LA, Education Welfare department and Ofsted and all school procedures are checked regularly.

I am delighted to confirm that the majority of our Parents support this policy, and their children attend school regularly.

The law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. Any absence from school will disrupt your child's learning. You may consider that a holiday will be educational, but your child will still miss out on the teaching that their peers will receive during your holiday. Children returning from a term-time holiday may also be unprepared for the lessons which build on the teaching they have missed. Teachers then must give more time to help individual children catch up on missed work. This poses a potential risk of the underachievement of other students in the class. This is something we all have a responsibility to avoid.

The Department of Education allows a Head Teacher the discretion to consider authorising a holiday in term time only in "exceptional circumstances". If you consider that your request for a holiday is exceptional you will need to complete the form found on the school website <https://www.cranwell.lincs.sch.uk/policies.asp>

A response will be sent to you as soon as possible. If the holiday is not considered to be an exceptional circumstance, and you nevertheless take your child out of school for the holiday, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Failure to complete the form in the required timeframe, and taking your child on holiday without authorisation will be classed as unauthorised.

In the case of an unauthorised holiday, the Local Authority will be notified of the holiday taken and a Penalty Notice may be issued. Please note that such a Penalty is issued to each parent for each child taken out of school.

**A Penalty Notice is a fine of £60 per parent per child which increases to £120 if not paid within the first 21 days. Thereafter if the Penalty remains unpaid this may result in legal action.**

In considering the decision whether to authorise, the following factors will be taken into account:

- Reasons given for the holiday
- The time of the year / term
- Whether your child will miss any preparation for tests / examinations
- Your child's previous attendance / punctuality record
- Whether your child is likely to fall behind with their work
- Whether the school has received any request for other leave of absence that year / previous years
- There is an acceptable exceptional reason for this request (which includes evidence)

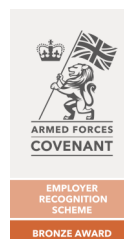
In addition to holiday absence, we have a very small number of children who persistently have time off. The Local Authority monitor children whose attendance which falls below 95%, and those who fall below 90% who may be subject to a penalty fine.

Holidays should be taken in holiday time of which we have 13 weeks available. These include 1 week Autumn half term, 2 weeks Christmas, 1 week Spring half term, 2 weeks Easter, 1 week Summer half term and 6 weeks in the summer.

I hope this explains how the school will deal with requests for leave and any holidays taken in term time.

Our Attendance Policy can be found on our website.

I hope you support our efforts to raise attendance and attainment at our school.





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## Late

Please can parents ensure that their children arrive at school before 8:55am.

The gates close at this time, and any child arriving after this point is late. Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends school on time. Lateness may result in you being served with a Penalty Notice or a summons to court. Parents have a duty to ensure their child's regular attendance at school and failure to do so is an offence under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.

Lateness has a negative impact on everybody at school.

Being late can:

Disrupt lessons - It is unfair on the teachers and other children in the class if another child enters the classroom once lessons have started.

Affect the achievement your child and others

Embarrass/upset your child when the class have already started their work

Being late adds up to loss of learning:

5 minutes late every day adds up to 3 days lost each year,

10 minutes adds up to 6 days lost each year,

15 minutes adds up to 10 days lost each year,

20 minutes adds up to 13 days lost each year,

30 minutes adds up to 19 days lost each year.

Being on time means not missing out!

Remember ... the School gates are open from 8:40am.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

## The Importance of Reading

It is important that children experience a broad curriculum. Learning about our World, the people within it and its climate are important. Keeping fit and healthy is vital for the children to reach their potential. Maths, writing and spelling are just as important in the casserole of learning a child needs. A child's reading skills, however, underpin their success in school in all subjects, as they will allow them to access the breadth of the curriculum and improve their communication and language skills. Reading opens more doors to new worlds for our children.

## What difference can I make as a parent?

You can make a huge difference! Parents are just as important as teachers. Reading to your children and listening to them read is so important for their development.

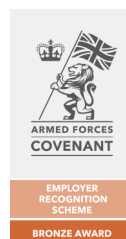
## How to encourage your child to read?

Here are some websites with great ideas to encourage your children to read:

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/encouraging-your-child-read>

<https://www.english.com/blog/motivate-children-reading-five-fun-activities/>

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/activities-to-encourage-pre-reading-621060>





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## Reading Superheroes

Calling all parents, carers and grandparents...would you like to become a Reading Superhero at our school?



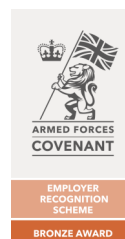
Reading underpins the whole curriculum and therefore it is really important that children learn to master this skill and become fluent and independent readers.

If you have any spare time and would be willing to volunteer to listen to readers on a regular basis, please get in touch with the ladies in the school office or ask for Mrs Birchenall or Miss Clark our English Coordinators.

Once we have a list of Reading Volunteers, we will be running a very short training session to ensure consistency and to give you confidence in how to improve a child's reading fluency. If you would like to come along to hear how you can improve your own child's fluency at home, you are more than welcome to join us too.

Be a Reading Superhero and help us build a school of readers!

Mrs Birchenall and Miss Clark





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www.childnet.com

## Be smart on the internet



**S SAFE** Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information – such as your full name, email address, phone number, home address, photos or school name – to people you are chatting with online.

**M MEETING** Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present.

**A ACCEPTING** Accepting emails, IM messages, or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!

**R RELIABLE** Information you find on the internet may not be true, or someone online may be lying about who they are.

**T TELL** Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.








**www.kidsmart.org.uk**

**KidSMART**



Visit Childnet's Kidsmart website to play interactive games and test your online safety knowledge. You can also share your favourite websites and online safety tips by Joining Hands with people all around the world.



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## Your guide to health services in Lincolnshire



### Self Care

Treat aches, pains, coughs, and colds at home. Stock up your medicine cabinet with over the counter remedies.



### Pharmacy

Visit your local pharmacy for advice on minor injuries, allergies, constipation, headaches, cold and flu symptoms, and earache.



### Your GP Practice

Contact your GP practice about symptoms that aren't going away. They can offer you an appointment or signpost you to other services.



### NHS 111

If you have an urgent health need but are not sure what to do, think NHS 111. Call 111 or visit 111. nhs.uk. Available 24/7.



### WaitLess

Download the WaitLess app to view live waiting times, queue numbers and travel-time information for our urgent care facilities.



### Urgent Treatment Centre

Seek help for sprains, fractures, minor burns, and skin infections. Simply walk in or book an appointment via NHS 111.



### Dental Treatment

For urgent dental care please contact your normal dental practice, or for advice out of hours call NHS 111.



### Mental Health Crisis

If you are worried about your mental health, call 0800 001 4331 (adults) or 0800 234 6342 (children and young people). Available 24/7.

In a medical emergency call 999. This is when someone is seriously ill or injured and their life is at risk.

**For more information visit [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)**



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## Your Guide to Health Services While Away From Home



### BE PREPARED

Treat aches and pains, coughs and colds at home.  
Stock up your medicine cabinet including pain killers, antihistamines, anti-diarrhoea and indigestion medicine.  
Order repeat prescriptions in plenty of time.  
Keep all medication, plasters, bandages and thermometers away from children.



### PHARMACY

Pharmacies offer health advice and treatment for allergies, constipation, cold and flu symptoms, earache, fever, thrush and healthy lifestyles.  
A visit to the pharmacy could save you a trip to the GP.  
If you forget your medication while away from home call your usual registered GP surgery during opening hours and they can arrange for a prescription to be sent electronically to a pharmacy local to where you are staying.



### VISIT NHS 111 ONLINE OR CALL NHS 111

Need health advice?  
Unsure which health service you need?  
Visit NHS 111 online or call NHS 111 – both are available 24 hours, seven days a week. Calls are free from mobiles and landlines.  
Typetalk number is 18001.



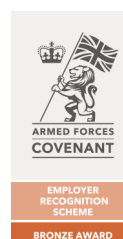
### MINOR ILLNESS OR INJURIES

For treatment of burns, cuts, wounds or infections contact NHS 111 for the nearest Urgent Treatment Centre where an appointment can be made for you if necessary or they can provide you with advice and guidance by phone or video consultation.



### GP

If you take ill while away from home contact your registered practice in the first instance where you can be offered a telephone or video consultation.  
If your practice or NHS 111 say it is necessary to be seen at a GP Practice you can register for up to 14 days while away from home or work.  
Your temporary GP will pass any details of treatment you have to your own GP.  
If you are staying for a longer period of time you should still ring your usual registered practice in the first instance and receive telephone or video consultation as a first step.





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**WAITLESS**

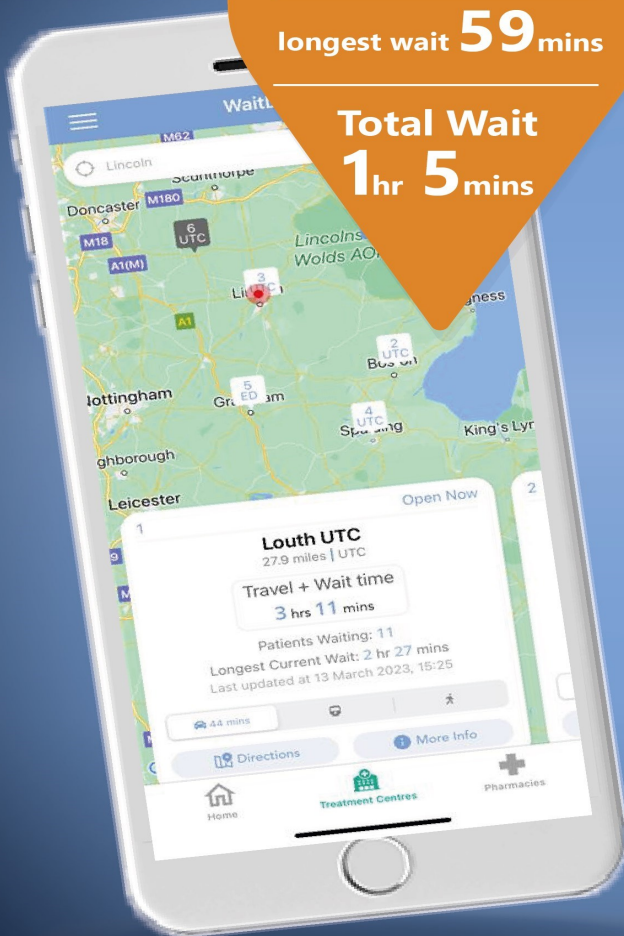


**Avoid long wait times  
when you need  
urgent care**

**16** mins travel  
**11** patients waiting

longest wait **59** mins

**Total Wait**  
**1 hr 5 mins**



# WaitLess

The WaitLess app combines travel, waiting and treatment times at all urgent care facilities across Lincolnshire, empowering patients to make informed decisions on the most appropriate setting to receive care.

The app also displays a full list of services available at each site, as well as parking and opening time information.

Don't wait.  
Download **WaitLess** now.

