



Public Holidays 2026

Opening Hours and *Courier Service Information

Easter 2026

Date	Laboratory	Courier
Thursday 2 nd April	8.30am - 5.00pm	Normal courier collection
Good Friday 3 rd April	8.30am - Midday	No courier collection
Saturday 4 th April	8.30am - Midday	No courier collection
Easter Monday 6 th April	CLOSED	No courier collection
Tuesday 7 th April	8.30am - 5.00pm	Normal courier collection

Early May Bank Holiday 2026

Monday 4 th May	CLOSED	No courier collection
----------------------------	--------	-----------------------

Spring Bank Holiday 2026

Monday 25 th May	CLOSED	No courier collection
-----------------------------	--------	-----------------------

Summer Bank Holiday 2026

Monday 31 st August	CLOSED	No courier collection
--------------------------------	--------	-----------------------

Advice for samples taken during the Easter Period.

For samples taken Friday 3rd April to Monday 6th April 2026, *please store all samples except slides & histology pots in the fridge until the day of the next courier collection.*

For **chemistry, serology or endocrinology tests**, please centrifuge as soon as possible after the clot forms and separate serum into a plain tube. Gel tubes are not ideal for longer storage and are not suitable for hormone or drug assays. If gel tubes are used they should be centrifuged and the serum can be poured into a plain tube after centrifugation, before refrigeration.

For **haematology**, make an air dried smear in addition to submitting whole EDTA.

Wherever clinically possible it would be best to take a fresh sample on the day the courier collection is scheduled rather than store for prolonged periods. This is particularly important for **microbiology samples**.

If you are in doubt about the usefulness of a stored sample please feel free to ring and discuss before submitting.

For **tests referred to other labs** (see price list), some samples will be stored at our lab until after Easter depending on arrival date and fragility. Please consider this when planning turnaround times, or contact us for details on a specific sample.

* Courier service information not applicable for ROI and other European customers.

If you have any queries please contact
our Diagnostic Support Team on:

01379 854180