

# Registered pharmacy inspection report

## Pharmacy name: S & S Chemists

Address: 23 Hillside, LONDON, NW10 8LY

Pharmacy reference: 1093882

Type of pharmacy: Community

Date of inspection: 23/07/2025

### Pharmacy context and inspection background

The pharmacy is opposite a busy health centre with several doctor's practices. It dispenses NHS and private prescriptions, gives health advice and sells over-the-counter medicines. The pharmacy supplies medicines in multi-compartment compliance packs for people who find it difficult to take their medicines at the correct time. The pharmacy's services include delivery, substance misuse, weight loss, travel clinic, Pharmacy First, new medicines service, ambulatory blood pressure monitoring, oral contraception and earwax removal.

This was a full routine inspection of the pharmacy. The pharmacy was last inspected in January 2016.

**Overall outcome:** Standards not all met

**Required Action:** Improvement Action Plan

Follow this link to [find out what the inspections possible outcomes mean](#)

### Standards not met

#### Standard 3.1

- The pharmacy's website does not display some of the required information such as address,

registration number and the names of the owner and superintendent pharmacist in line with GPhC guidance.

## Areas of good practice

### Standard 1.1

- The pharmacy uses technology to help deliver its services safely. The pharmacy robot reduces errors in the dispensing process and optimises team member's time. And it uses an App for team members to maintain and access the pharmacy records, systems and procedures. reduce mistakes and improve the safety of its dispensing service.

### Standard 1.2

- The pharmacy team keep records of patient safety incidents such as near misses and errors, and the actions taken to reduce the risk of the same mistakes happening again. These are reviewed to improve the safety and quality of the pharmacy services provided.

### Standard 4.2

- The pharmacy's robot improves medicines management and workflow. It maximises space in the dispensary by storing the medicines and tracking expiry dates. It frees up team member's time by increasing the efficiency of the dispensing process.

## Principle 1: The governance arrangements safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 1: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 1

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                               | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.1 - The risks associated with providing pharmacy services are identified and managed                                                                                                 | Met                            | <b>Good practice</b>                                        |
| 1.2 - The safety and quality of pharmacy services are regularly reviewed and monitored                                                                                                 | Met                            | <b>Good practice</b>                                        |
| 1.3 - Pharmacy services are provided by staff with clearly defined roles and clear lines of accountability                                                                             | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.4 - Feedback and concerns about the pharmacy, services and staff can be raised by individuals and organisations, and these are taken into account and action taken where appropriate | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.5 - Appropriate indemnity or insurance arrangements are in place for the pharmacy services provided                                                                                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.6 - All necessary records for the safe provision of pharmacy services are kept and maintained                                                                                        | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.7 - Information is managed to protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services                                              | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.8 - Children and vulnerable adults are safeguarded                                                                                                                                   | Met                            |                                                             |

## Principle 2: Staff are empowered and competent to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 2: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 2

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                                              | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.1 - There are enough staff, suitably qualified and skilled, for the safe and effective provision of the pharmacy services provided                                                                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.2 - Staff have the appropriate skills, qualifications and competence for their role and the tasks they carry out, or are working under the supervision of another person while they are in training | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.3 - Staff can comply with their own professional and legal obligations and are empowered to exercise their professional judgement in the best interests of patients and the public                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.4 - There is a culture of openness, honesty and learning                                                                                                                                            | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.5 - Staff are empowered to provide feedback and raise concerns about meeting these standards and other aspects of pharmacy services                                                                 | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.6 - Incentives or targets do not compromise the health, safety or wellbeing of patients and the public, or the professional judgement of staff                                                      | Met                            |                                                             |

### Principle 3: The environment and condition of the premises from which pharmacy services are provided, and any associated premises, safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

#### Summary outcome: Standards not all met

Table 3: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 3

| Standard                                                                                                                 | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 3.1 - Premises are safe, clean, properly maintained and suitable for the pharmacy services provided                      | Not met                        |                                                          |
| 3.2 - Premises protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services | Met                            |                                                          |
| 3.3 - Premises are maintained to a level of hygiene appropriate to the pharmacy services provided                        | Met                            |                                                          |
| 3.4 - Premises are secure and safeguarded from unauthorized access                                                       | Met                            |                                                          |
| 3.5 - Pharmacy services are provided in an environment that is appropriate for the provision of healthcare               | Met                            |                                                          |

## Principle 4: The way in which pharmacy services, including management of medicines and medical devices, are delivered safeguards the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 4: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 4

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.1 - The pharmacy services provided are accessible to patients and the public                                                                                                                                                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 4.2 - Pharmacy services are managed and delivered safely and effectively                                                                                                                                                        | Met                            | <b>Good practice</b>                                        |
| 4.3 - Medicines and medical devices are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; supplied to the patient safely; and disposed of safely and securely | Met                            |                                                             |
| 4.4 - Concerns are raised when medicines or medical devices are not fit for purpose                                                                                                                                             | Met                            |                                                             |

## Principle 5: The equipment and facilities used in the provision of pharmacy services safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 5: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 5

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                            | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.1 - Equipment and facilities needed to provide pharmacy services are readily available                                                                                            | Met                            |                                                             |
| 5.2 - Equipment and facilities are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; and appropriately maintained | Met                            |                                                             |
| 5.3 - Equipment and facilities are used in a way that protects the privacy and dignity of the patients and the public who receive pharmacy services                                 | Met                            |                                                             |

### What do the summary outcomes for each principle mean?

| Finding                      | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ✓ <b>Excellent practice</b>  | The pharmacy demonstrates innovation in the way it delivers pharmacy services which benefit the health needs of the local community, as well as performing well against the standards. |
| ✓ <b>Good practice</b>       | The pharmacy performs well against most of the standards and can demonstrate positive outcomes for patients from the way it delivers pharmacy services.                                |
| ✓ <b>Standards met</b>       | The pharmacy meets all the standards.                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Standards not all met</b> | The pharmacy has not met one or more standards.                                                                                                                                        |