

## Flax Bourton Defibrillators

Did you know Flax Bourton has access to vital life saving equipment? An AED (automated external defibrillator) is a device that gives the heart an electric shock if it has stopped ([cardiac arrest](#)) and there are now two defibrillators in the village. Using a defibrillator in the minutes before an ambulance arrives can **double** someone's chances of survival!

The defibrillators are stored in distinctive green 'HeartSafe' AED cabinets, with a green sign above. One is located on the side of the village hall and the other at the school gate. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you think you need to use the defibrillator dial 999 and the emergency services will guide you through what to do. The defibrillator box is portable, but requires an access code, which the emergency services will provide to you. You do not need any specialist knowledge or training to use the defibrillators as the equipment itself will provide you with instructions and the ambulance service will also stay on the phone to you!

For further information on defibrillators, and to see a video of how to use one, visit the St John Ambulance website at <http://www.sja.org.uk/sja/first-aid-advice/first-aid-techniques/using-a-defibrillator-aed.aspx>

Full instructions are displayed next to each defibrillator, as follows:

### EMERGENCY DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

**In the event of a suspected cardiac arrest, the following procedure should be used:**

1. **Call 999** and ask for the ambulance service.
2. When asked by the operator, please give the telephone number from where you are calling and the location of this cabinet which is:  
**Cabinet No. [x]**  
**Flax Bourton [Village Hall/School]**  
**[Street]**  
**Flax Bourton**  
**North Somerset**  
**BS48 [x]**
3. The operator will ask a series of questions which you will need to answer to the best of your ability. This will only take a few moments and will not delay the ambulance.
4. The operator will then provide you with the access code to open the cabinet.
5. The defibrillator and resuscitation pack should be removed from the cabinet and the ambulance service will stay on the line and give verbal instruction if required.
6. Switch on the defibrillator and it will then provide you with verbal instructions for use.
7. The defibrillator cannot be used incorrectly as it will only deliver a shock to the patient if it detects it is necessary.
8. There are scissors in the resuscitation pack to assist with removal of clothing and a pocket rescue breath mask for use with ventilations in CPR.
9. If you are unable or unwilling to give ventilations, simply do 'hands only' chest compressions.

**Remember THINK safety.**  
**Look around before pushing the button to shock and SHOUT the command**  
**STAND CLEAR SHOCKING and then check to make sure everyone is clear.**