

## Sir Alexander Fleming

Sir Alexander Fleming was born 6 August 1881 in lark field Ayrshire.

He lived on a farm, went to Darvel school and then Kilmarnock academy.

He then went to the Royal Polytechnic Institution and he became a physician.

At St Mary hospital he went to medical school in Paddington qualified in 1906 with distinction. He was the 3<sup>rd</sup> of four children and lost his father when he was 7.

He discovered the medicine called penicillin.

Sir Alexander Fleming had mould growing on a Petri dish, the bacteria could not grow anywhere on the dish near the mould. He realised that the mould must contain a chemical which stops bacteria growing. We now call these chemicals antibiotics. Penicillin was the first antibiotic to be discovered, and is still one of the most important drugs of all time.



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