Bedford Street Surgery & Furzton Medical Centre Practice & PPG Newsletter



For a larger font ask at reception

Covid Spring Boosters

Covid 19 us no longer a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, but now an established health issue. However, COVID-19 is more serious in older people and in people with certain underlying health conditions. For these reasons, people aged 75 years and over, those in care homes, and those aged 5 years and over with a weakened immune system are being offered a spring booster of COVID-19 vaccine.

You will be invited to have your spring booster around 6 months from your last dose but you can have it from 3 months.

You can book using the NHS app. or you can visit www.nhs.uk/vaccine-walk-in to fnd your nearest walk in vaccination site if you are eligible.

Planning is currently underway with the local medical services to vaccinate our eligible housebound patients.

Your patient participation group

Did You Know...

During April the practice received over 500 requests for appointments and information through the practice website www.bedfordstreetsurgery.co.uk

The practice paramedics help support on the day urgent requests and visit our patients both housebound and in care homes with the liasion of the doctor.

Social Prescriber

Our social prescriber helps people connect with services, support and activities in the local community to improve their health and wellbeing.

The service is open to adults over the age of 18 whom non-medical interventions may be particularly effective in reducing demand on health services, generally where poor health is being caused by social isolation, lifestyle or other underlaying issues.

If you think you could benefit from this service please speak with our care navigators.

Your patient participation group (PPG) is made up of a group of volunteer patients, the practice manager and one or more of the GPs from the practice. The group covers both the Bedford Street Surgery and Furzton Medical Centre. No medical or patient information is shared or discussed at the meetings.

The changes to the NHS and the focus on patient involvement means that the PPG now has an increasingly proactive role to ensure that patient views are captured and understood by the Practice. The patient participation group meets on a regular basis to discuss the services on offer, and how improvements can be made for the benefit of patients and the practice.

In order to gather a truly representative sample of patients together, we welcome patients from all manner of diverse backgrounds including young people, students, workers, retired people, people with long term conditions, and people from non-British ethnic groups.

If you are interested in joining the PPG visit the website <u>www.bedfordstreetsurgery.co.uk</u> and click on Practice Information and scroll down to Patient Participation Group to register, or come in to the practice and speak with a member of our reception team.

Our Gp's

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Making Appointments

Bedford Street:

Dr Ullah (M): Thurs & Fri

Dt Stranks (F): Mon, Wed, Thurs

Dr Jahngir (M): Mon, Tue, Wed

Furzton Medical Centre:

Dr Fitzjohn (M): Tue, Wed, Fri

Dr Mosha (F): Tue, Wed, Thurs

We are Closed:

Monday 1st May

Monday 8th May

Wednesday 24th May—Practice protected learning 2.30—6.30

Monday 29th May

You can book online or call 01908 658850

<u>Nurse Practitioners</u> These are experienced Nurse and Independent prescribers able to see a wide range of conditions, minor illness, minor injury and other acute conditions.

<u>Specialist Nurses:</u> We have diabetes, COPD and asthma specialist nurses

<u>Practice Nurses:</u> Practice Nurses undertake a wide variety of responsibility's, Disease Prevention, Wound Care, monitoring chronic conditions, vaccination, Specific Health Checks, Cervical Screening, Pill checks and much more

Health Care Assistant (HCA): Blood Tests, Blood pressure checks, Wound Care, ECGs, Removal Of Stitches or Staples, NHS Health Checks, Certain Injections: B12, Flu, Shingles, Pneumonia, Spirometry, Diabetes Care.

Use our online services to book and cancel appointments it'is the quickest way for you to book. If you have a non urgent enquiry you can contact the practice using the website. https://bedfordstreetsurgery.co.uk/

Care Navigators

When you call for an appointment your call will be transferred to our care navigators on reception. At the GPs request, they will ask for the reason you need to see a clinician today, this is so we can direct your appointment efficiently to the right clinician

We do understand that there may be times when you wish this information to remain confidential. Please do inform the care navigators if that is the case and they will enter the reason as personal. We would like to assure you that our care navigators handle this information sensitively and use booking templates on the clinical system so the information which can be seen is sensitively recorded.

Prescriptions

All patients can register to use our online services with SystmOnline, where you will be able to request your medication.

When requesting a repeat prescription in practice use the computer print out of the medication and tick the items you require and post in the red letterbox outside of the surgery.

We do take requests for repeat medication over the telephone for housebound patients. Repeat prescription requests take between 48 to 72 hours.

Home Visits

If you do need a home visit, you can help us by calling reception before 11:00.

You may only request a home visit if you are housebound or are too ill to visit the practice. Our paramedic will liaise with our doctors and will only visit you at home if they think that your medical condition requires it. They will also decide how urgently a visit is needed. Please bear this in mind and be prepared to provide suitable details to enable a schedule house calls