**ABINGDON MEDICAL PRACTICE**



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**NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2022**

***STAFF CHANGES***

From 1st April 2022 Dr Bilal Sahib will become a GP partner.

We have a new GP Registrar: Dr Bryony Woods who will be with us until summer 2022.

***COVID 19 PANDEMIC***

We continue to use telephone triage to assess which patients need to be seen at the surgery and who we can help without attending.

To protect yourself, other patients and our staff, please continue to wear face coverings when attending the surgery.



***COVID 19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME***

Violet Melchett Centre Flood Street in Chelsea and St Charles Integrated Care Centre Exmoor Street continue vaccinating our patients, alongside other mass vaccination centres, the nearest centre being the Science Museum. For more information on opening hours and on how to book appointments please refer to the practice’s website.

***REGISTERING OVERSEAS VACCINATIONS***

Both St. Charles Centre for Health & Wellbeing and Violet Melchett have been accredited to be part of the Overseas Vaccination Validation Record Service (OVVRS).

 From 5th March 2022 patients who have received any of the following MRHA approved vaccines will be able to update their UK vaccination record:

• Oxford/AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria)

• Pfizer/Biotech (Comirnaty)

• Moderna (Spikevax)

• Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)

 Please book an appointment via the National Booking Service (you can find it on our website too): <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/tell-nhs-about-coronavirus-vaccinations-abroad/>.

In addition to the PCN-led sites, patients can also book appointments at the Science Museum and other locations across NWL to access this service.

***HEALTH VISITOR CLINIC***

Child Health Clinics have been re-opened as appointment only clinics.

Currently the baby clinic is run in the practice by Dr Chua on Wednesday afternoons, and by the health visitor in various centres in the area, the nearest being:

- the Holland Park Surgery (on Tuesdays 2pm-4pm)

- and St Cuthbert’s Children’s Centre (on Thursdays 9.30am-11am).

Appointments in both centres can be accessed by calling 0208 200 2500 ext 2 or contacting clcht.childhealthinformationhubkcwf@nhs.net.

Please remember to bring your red book whenever you attend a clinic.

Please do not attend a clinic without a booked appointment.

***REGISTER FOR ONLINE SERVICES***

If you haven't already registered to use our online service, now is the perfect time. Please fill in Online Access Request which you can find on our website, or speak to our reception staff.

By using the online services, you can make better use of your time. The practice enables patients to access their medical records on-line:

• Order Repeat Prescriptions

• See some types of results • Book/Cancel appointments (currently unavailable)

• Change your address or contact details

• See your Allergies and main illnesses/conditions

• Immunisations

• Send secure messages to the surgery

• To access Health Advice information on how to manage a range of health topics, together with written and video information

• See some coded elements of your medical record

• To check the information received from your previous practice is correct

If any of the information on your record is incorrect, please use the on-contact form or write to the practice manager.

***CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATIONS***

The MMR vaccine is a safe and effective combined vaccine. It protects against 3 serious illnesses: • measles • mumps • rubella

 These highly infectious conditions can easily spread between unvaccinated people. Getting vaccinated is important, as these conditions can also lead to serious problems including meningitis, hearing loss and problems during pregnancy. Two doses of the MMR vaccine provides the best protection against measles, mumps and rubella. For more information on the MMR vaccine please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine/>



***WEIGHT MANAGEMENT***

Are you looking for support in weight management?

For those who are interested and meet the criteria, we are able to refer patients for a weight management programme.

Please call us to let us know your up to date height and weight in kg, and that you are interested in being referred and we will book an appointment with our HCA.

For more information please refer to the practice’s website.