

HOUGHTON CLOSE SURGERY

WE ARE OPEN BANK HOLIDAY FRIDAY 8TH MAY

COVID—19 UPDATE

Due to these unforeseen circumstances we have currently shut our main doors. However we are still here for you!! We are offering telephone consultations to speak to GP's and nurses, you will still need to call us at 8:30am onwards to book in for a telephone slot. The clinician will then make advise if you need to have a face to face appointment. Currently this is only required if you need to be examined.

We are continuing to see patients that require injections, smears, wound management/dressings and blood monitoring for high risk medications.

PPE

We are following strict guidelines of PPE, the clinicians and nurses are wearing the equipment when seeing patients face to face.

Childhood Immunisations

Childhood immunisations remains a priority. To ease demand on GP practices the school Aged Immunisation Service have taken over this service for all immunisations for those babies 12months or under (also from May the team will offer pertussis vaccination) holding clinics in local community settings.

If your baby is due their 8 week development check you will get a phone call from us to book this in. Please note this does not include the 8 week injections.

We are still offering the preschool booster injections, please call the surgery to book these in.

Dispensary

Dispensary are still open for business, although patients need to come to the side door to pick up medication, keeping 2m apart.

Please note dispensary are not open till 3:30pm on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon. They also have a break at 12pm for 15 minutes each day so please refrain from coming at that time.

You can continue to order your prescriptions online, allowing a minimum of 3 days for processing. If you are not set up online, you can write your repeat prescription down and put it in our post box at the front of the surgery.



Medical Certificates

The GP's are unavailable to provide medical certificates for patients off work due to the COVID – 19. If your employer is asking for a certificate and you are self isolating please go to the NHS 111 website for more information.

Phlebotomy

Bedford South Wing walk in phlebotomy is closed, they are operating from North Wing.
8am—4:30pm.

Stay at home

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
 - If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
 - Wash your hands as soon as you get home.
 - Do not meet others, even friends or family.
- You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

Do not leave home if you or someone you live with has either:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough

The single most important action we can all take, in fighting coronavirus, is to stay at home in order to protect the NHS and save lives.

When we reduce our day-to-day contact with other people, we will reduce the spread of the infection.

Some people are particularly vulnerable to poor outcomes following coronavirus infection for medical reasons because of underlying health conditions, this group who are clinically vulnerable are advised to take particular care to minimize contact with others outside their household.

For any further information on COVID-19 please go to the NHS 111 website. You can check the website if you have symptoms and what to do if you have, how to protect yourselves and others from getting the corona virus and any changes and announcements that are being shared.

We are here to keep you and us safe, we are being updated daily with changes and guidelines on how to do this.



Helpful websites

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health>



