

Spring Newsletter 2024



Surgery Easter Opening Hours

Friday 29th March 2024: **Closed**

Monday 1st April 2024: **Closed**

Tuesday 2nd April 2024: **Usual Open Hours**

New Staff

We would like to welcome our new receptionist, Jade, to the team.

Measles Vaccination

Measles is very contagious, spreads very easily and can make children and adults seriously unwell.

Measles usually starts with cold-like symptoms, followed by a rash a few days later. Some people may also get small spots in their mouth. Catching measles whilst you are pregnant could harm your baby.

As there is no medical treatment for measles, vaccination is the best protection. The MMR vaccine is safe, effective and provides long-lasting protection against three serious illnesses: measles, mumps and rubella.

The vaccine is available free to children on the NHS. It is given in two doses, the first is offered to children aged one and the second before they start school.

You can have the vaccine at any age and if your child has missed out on a dose, please contact the practice.

If you think your child might have measles, keep your child at home and call us at the practice for advice. You can find more information on the NHS website: www.nhs.uk

Prescriptions

Please order your medications in plenty of time to ensure you do not run out over the holiday period.

Routine Appointment Availability

In response to feedback from patients and in an attempt to reduce the daily pressure and stress we are currently experiencing with our appointment system, we are trialling a new way of booking routine appointments in advance.

With effect from **Monday 25th March 2024**, we will be releasing appointments daily up to two weeks in advance. For example, on a Monday we will release appointments for the Monday a fortnight later.

Do you need help during the Easter holidays!

• Pharmacy Easter Opening Hours:

• **Good Friday and Easter Monday:**

All pharmacies should now be open on from 2pm to 5pm. Please visit www.nhs.uk to check availability of local pharmacies.

• **Easter Sunday:**

Crescent Pharmacy (Open 10am to 12pm)

2 Fleming Crescent, Hertford, SG14 2DJ

Sheffield Pharmacy (Open 12pm to 2pm)

64 Fore Street, Hertford, SG14 1BT

Patient's Voice Group (PVG)

The PVG is group of Hanscombe House patients and GP staff who meet regularly. The aim is to influence the way services are delivered by the Practice. If you are interested in joining, please contact:

Kristina Lawson, PVG Acting Chair at:

Surgery.hanscombehouse@nhs.net

Are you using the right service?

Self Care: Care for yourself at home - minor cuts, grazes, bruises, sprains, coughs and colds

Pharmacy: Minor illnesses, headaches, stomach upsets, bites and stings

GP: For expert medical advice, medical examinations and prescriptions for illnesses

NHS 111: Call NHS 111 if you need medical help and advice, but it is not a 999 emergency

A&E / 999: These services should be used in an emergency critical or life-threatening situation.