



Park Road Surgery - Teddington

Date Issue:
December 2022

parkroadsurgeryteddington.co.uk

Please see our website, as shown above, for further details about the practice, the services we provide, our staff and latest news updates

On behalf of everyone at Park Road Surgery we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2023

Please note that we will be closed over the festive period on:

Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th December 2022 and on Monday 2nd January 2023.

Please ensure that you order any repeat prescriptions in time (allowing three working days for them to be processed).

If you need urgent medical advice when we are closed please call 111. Please dial 999 in an emergency.

AUTUMN VACCINATIONS

Our nursing team have been very busy over the last two months providing covid vaccine Autumn boosters and the annual influenza vaccinations. These have been available to all patients over 50 years of age or in an at risk group.

We have already carried out over 1,500 flu jabs, plus intranasal flu vaccinations for children aged 2 and 3 years old and polio booster vaccinations for children aged 1 to 4 years old. In addition we have run a

series of covid vaccine booster clinics at the surgery and attended local care homes and housebound patients to administer these as required.

We still have a few flu vaccinations available and would encourage anyone in the eligible group, who has not already had one, to book this asap. Cases of influenza have been rising this year and there are concerns about the effect this will have on patients and the health service as a whole.



WHY DO YOU ASK ME WHY I WANT TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT?

Our receptionists are trained to ask why an appointment is being booked, as sometimes there would be a more appropriate service available than a GP appointment. We work alongside a number of other services, for example:

- Physiotherapy assessment service – we can book you directly for a phone consultation with a physiotherapist, often within a couple of days. They can advise you about exercises, pain relief and suitable further care eg. a physio referral.
- Pediatric nurse – your child may be booked to see a specialist pediatric nurse at one of the hub surgeries.
- Optician assessments – we may suggest that you make an appointment through the primary care optician service, for specialised eye issues advice.
- Pharmacies – we can now refer you directly for a consultation with a local pharmacy. There are a range of conditions which can be suitably dealt with by a pharmacist eg. bites and stings, constipation, coughs and fevers or sticky eyes.

All of these services work closely with us and will refer back to the GPs if any further actions are required.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) MEMBERSHIP - BY JANICE

Why did you join the PPG? - I noticed the advert for PPG members on the appointment broadcaster in the surgery waiting room and I liked the idea of the practice inviting opinions from its patients, as it made me feel that they wanted to actively involve us in how the service is provided. I decided to contact them and go along to see what happened at a meeting to see if I could contribute in any way.

Does it take up a lot of your time? - Not really, there are usually four meetings a year and the dates are given in advance. A meeting takes between one to one and a half hours each time.

What happens at the meeting? - The meeting is chaired by one of the public members and is attended by Emma, the Practice Manager, and one of the doctors also attends on rotation. There are usually four or five public members there too. An agenda is circulated in advance and it follows a fairly regular pattern; following up on anything from the previous meeting, any new topics to be covered e.g. changes to NHS policy, and then updates on the practice's performance.

Do you have to attend every meeting? - Being a member of the group doesn't take up too much time and the practice realises that not everyone can make it every time. Minutes are sent out after each meeting, so you're kept up to date even if you weren't able to attend. Further details on joining can be found on the practice website.

Do you recommend joining the group? - I do! It's a really friendly group and the PPG can always use extra members. It's especially important to have a wide range of opinions from as diverse a group as possible.

“FOCUS ON” - DR ALEXANDRA PATTON

How long have you been at Park Road Surgery? 24 years

Do you have an area of specialism? All areas, but have an interest in gynaecology and HRT

What do you feel is the highlight of your time working at this surgery? I feel lucky to be working alongside such a supportive and cohesive team - both medical and administrative colleagues

If you weren't a GP, what would you like to do as a job? Something creative or theatrical

What do you feel is the greatest challenge facing Primary Care at the moment? The demand for GP appointments is outstripping supply. Driven by combination of factors eg the pandemic & premises

What three words do you think describe you best? Asked my family for these three words! - dedicated, passionate, sociable

What is the last book you read or what TV programme are you currently enjoying most? Not a lot of time to watch TV- but a fan of cricket—been following the England Pakistan test series. For reading been listening to Michelle Obama autobiography, Becoming.