

The Marshside Surgery

Dr Robert Caudwell

117 Fylde Road, Southport, PR9 9XP

Tel: 01704 505555 Fax: 01704 395734

<http://www.marshsidesurgery.nhs.uk/>

NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN/WINTER 2020 EDITION

Covid-19 Update

We hope that all our patients know that we are very much OPEN and have been throughout the pandemic for them. If you have not had access to us so far, then please be advised, that in line with national guidance, we are continuing triage first consultations. This means that your GP/Nurse clinician will speak to you over the phone and if it is something that you need to be seen face to face for, you will be asked to come to the surgery at a time allocated to keep you as safe as possible. Our nurses are seeing patients for routine smears, blood tests, chronic disease reviews and vaccinations and all patients will be screened for symptoms prior to coming into the surgery. The numbers of Covid-19 patients locally are high and so the measures we have put in place are to keep you and our staff safe.

Vulnerable risk groups and those with children attending educational settings

We understand that with the announcement of a new lockdown there are going to be a number of patients concerned about the situation, especially those in very vulnerable risk groups and also those with children attending educational settings. The current government advice about high risk groups is available on the government website; a link to that website is attached here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november#protecting-people-more-at-risk-from-coronavirus>. There will no doubt be lots of questions about what this means for high risk patients, especially those who work, GPs at the surgery have no additional information beyond the government advice. Sick notes (Fit note) will only be issued for patients that are unwell and can't work.

We also understand and sympathise with the concerns around children attending school at this time, especially if a household has extremely vulnerable members. As a practice we are very sorry, but decisions about children attending school are not ours to make. It is not something that we can help with. We would suggest a discussion between the people involved and the school to decide on the best course of action.

Nurse Practitioner

We are pleased to announce that from the 2nd November 2020, Mrs Corrine Lang will be starting work as a part-time Nurse clinician (ANP) at the surgery. Corrine is highly trained and experienced at assessing, diagnosing and treating medical problems.

Polite reminder please be kind to our staff

It is with regret that we need to remind patients to be kind and patient with staff at the surgery in all of their encounters with staff. We are experiencing an extremely high call volume and demand for primary care services.

General practice appointment data for September showed:

- 20% increase in appointments compared to August
- 26.6 million appointments in September
- 56.6% of appointments were face to face

WE ARE NOT ALL IN
THE SAME BOAT
BUT WE ARE ALL IN THE SAME STORM

