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Group Practice

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Newsletter August 2015

Dear Patients

The Partners of the Practice are happy to announce the merger between The Meadowhead Group Practice and Greenhill Health Centre has been approved by NHS England and will take place 1st October 2015. The joint Practices will be known as Meadowgreen Health Centre. All patients will have access to all services offered across the 3 existing sites.

Dr Deborah C Turner from Greenhill Health Centre will join the newly merged Practice as a Partner. All the Partners are very enthusiastic about this merger and see it as a way forward to secure services for its patients. We will keep you informed of developments as they happen.

As from the 1st October 2015 as part of the merger the Old School Site will begin to open Thursday afternoons until 6:30 pm. The Practice will also open from 8:00 am Monday – Friday.

STAFFING

Dr Caroline Barclay will return to the Practice on 1st September 2015 as a Salaried GP. We are looking forward to welcoming Caroline back after Maternity Leave.

Dr Hope Igbinedion, our new GP Registrar will commence at the Practice at the beginning of August 2015 and will be with us until February 2016.

We would also like to welcome our new Apprentice Isabelle Carr, who you will see working in Reception.

PATIENT GROUP TALK

A date has been set aside for a Patient Talk on Dermatology on Wednesday 21st October at 18:30. Venue to be confirmed. Please look out for further details on the notice board and website.

FLU SEASON

Flu season is nearly upon us again and a date for Flu Saturday has been set for Saturday 17th October 2015. Appointments are now available. Please contact Reception to make your appointment or book online at www.meadowheadgrouppractice.co.uk

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SYSTMONLINE

Please note you can 'beat the queues' by making your appointment and ordering your prescriptions online. Please ask at Reception or go online to www.meadowheadgrouppractice.co.uk for more information (+18 only). Patients can now also view their Summary Medical Record with SystmOnline. Please request access to this from Reception

ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING

If you currently collect your repeat prescriptions from your GP, you will not have to visit your GP practice to pick up your paper prescription. Instead, your GP will send it electronically to the place you choose, saving you time. You will have more choice about where to get your medication from because it can be collected from a pharmacy near where you live, work or shop. You may also not have to wait as long at the pharmacy as there will be more time for your repeat prescriptions to be prepared before you arrive. To sign up for this new service, please collect a form from either the Pharmacy of your choice or the Surgery.

If you currently already collect your prescription from a nominated Pharmacy, you will still need to let the Pharmacy know that you want this service to continue.

NHS Choices

We would like hear your views about the service you received recently from the surgery. Please leave a comment on our NHS Choices site at www.nhs.uk and enter our postcode S8 7RL. Thankyou.

Finally

Dr McAllister would like to thank all the patients for their kind wishes and support during what has been a very difficult time for him and his family. We wish them well.

NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

You should use the NHS 111 service if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life-threatening situation.

Call 111 if:

- **you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency**
- **you think you need to go to A&E or need another NHS urgent care service**
- **you don't know who to call or you don't have a GP to call**
- **you need health information or reassurance about what to do next**

For less urgent health needs, contact your GP or local pharmacist in the usual way.

For immediate, life-threatening emergencies, continue to call 999.

For less urgent health needs, contact [your GP](#) or [local pharmacist](#) in the usual way.