

*****PATIENT NOTICE - CHANGES AT NEW QUEEN STREET & STANGROUND SURGERIES*****

Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic the team at The New Queen Street and Stanground Surgeries has been working hard to keep our patients safe whilst continuing to offer our usual services.

To manage patients safely, we initially divided our operations so that patients who were potentially infected with Coronavirus were managed by New Queen Street and other patients were treated at Stanground.

It was originally deemed appropriate to do this because our Stanground Surgery was smaller in size and has an onsite pharmacy. As a result, many of our nurses were moved there to deal with 'hands on' procedures where human contact is needed, such as changing dressings.

Our GPs, who were carrying out digital consultations wherever possible to minimise the spread of infection amongst patients, operated from our New Queen Street Surgery.

Now that Stanground Surgery has been selected as a Vaccination Centre we have taken the decision to transfer many of our staff back to New Queen Street and any patient appointments will now take place there, away from where people are being vaccinated.

We really appreciate how understanding our patients have been throughout this pandemic. They coped fantastically with the changes we put in place at the onset and we hope they will bear with us as we implement these latest changes.

The best way we can continue to keep people safe whilst we roll out the life-saving Coronavirus vaccine is to temporarily redistribute our services again.

We would like to reassure our patients that we always have their best interests at heart. We are fighting to keep everyone healthy in these unique circumstances and will continue to put our patients' health and welfare at the forefront of everything we do.

So far, more than 2,000 patients have received the first Coronavirus vaccination at the Stanground Surgery whilst we have continued to operate our usual services at New Queen Street Surgery.

The first people to receive the vaccine were those identified as being most at risk by NHS England and they are due to receive a second vaccination within 12 weeks, in line with new advice from the UK's Chief Medical Officers.

As the vaccination programme is rolled out further and the prioritisation of the cohorts is set by the Joint Committee for Vaccinations and Immunisations (JCVI), all eligible patients will be contacted by the surgery and asked to make an appointment. Patients are advised to wait until they are contacted and not to contact the surgery unless they receive direct communication from the surgery asking them to make an appointment.

Any patients with other queries can contact the New Queen Street Surgery on 01733 204 611.

Thank you for your support during this time.