

OLD SCHOOL SURGERY - SEAFORD

Incorporating
ALFRISTON SURGERY

Dr Shan Palit
Dr Ian Bayles Dr Francis Nicholls
Dr Raj Chandarana Dr Scott Blayney

Angela Green - Practice Business Manager

Mrs Victoria Rutt
Clerk and RFO
Alfriston Parish Council
33 Swaines Way
Heathfield
TN21 0AN

11th May 2021

Dear Victoria

Thank you for your letter of 6th May 2021 in relation to our branch surgery at Alfriston.

The practice has remained open and accessible to patients throughout the Covid pandemic but with patients only attending in person if clinically necessary at our surgery in Seaford. The Doctors and all the staff have worked throughout with demand remaining high.

The guidance is and remains that patients healthcare provision should be by alternative pathways where possible, such as, telephone triage, telephone consultation, video consultation and with patients only attending in person once this has been approved to be clinically necessary by the clinician at which time they will be allocated an appointment to attend the surgery.

On attendance at Old School Surgery, the patient is only able to enter the building via the intercom access if they have an appointment. The clinician that they are seeing will carry out health checks with them prior to any consultation taking place to ensure the safety of all concerned. The patient enters the building via the front door and leaves using the back exit door. The number of patients in the building at any one time is managed with social distancing taking place at all times. There is a sanitisation process for patients on arrival and a cleaning process when they leave.

All staff, whether patient facing or not, adhere to wearing of masks in practice to protect their colleagues and all staff undertake lateral flow testing twice a week.

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The reason for this process is so that we can continue to provide the necessary healthcare to all of our 10,000 patients and maintain the safety of our clinicians and staff to maintain service provision.

There is no planned change to this process and Alfriston will remain closed with no planned reopening at this time.

The Dispensary staff were incorrect with the information that they gave to Cllr Watkins as this has nothing to do with only having one entrance to the building and everything to do with patient management in the most safe and effective way to continue providing a service to all our patients.

Alfriston surgery continues to operate our Dispensary to dispense medication to patients and is currently used by Doctors/staff to provide much needed room space and ensure social distanced working environment for our staff.

We continue to see very sick and unwell patients whom seek and need reassurance that their surgery is a safe place for them to attend if necessary and I am afraid that guidance to reopening of shops and massage services is non-comparable.

I hope that this has provided some clarity for you to share with the Parish Council.

Yours sincerely



Angela Green
Practice Business Manager