



consultants here at the hospital as well as other specialists including physiotherapists, so patients have quick access to them too.

“We have a reception, a patient liaison team and an efficient booking system so all patients have a good experience when they come to Beardwood. It also means that if patients need a repeat appointment, there is assured continuity.



“I think it’s incredibly important that GPs get to know their patients, it makes a huge difference. The standard consulting time for a GP in the NHS is ten minutes and that’s not enough, they just don’t have the time” says Dr Begum, who sets aside 30 minutes for each consultation.

“When I have a consultation, I get to know a patient’s background, it’s a full MOT.”

When Dr Begum sees a private patient she is also able to share information with a patient’s NHS GP, resulting in a ‘joined-up’, efficient blend of private and NHS treatment.

Numerous finance options are available in private health – patients can self-fund, they may have private healthcare insurance or they can opt for flexible payment options.

To find out more about Dr Begum’s GP services go to the link below where you can book an appointment online. ■

Appointments with Dr Begum are £120 for a 30-minute consultation.



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CONTINUITY & CARE

Long waiting times to see an NHS GP and lack of continuity, has prompted a local doctor to join forces with a private health care group to give patients swift access to expert medical care and diagnostic equipment. Photography: Suzanne Skeen

Working both privately and for the NHS, Dr Nazneen Begum believes that first-class healthcare should be available to all.

With current waiting times to see your NHS GP lengthy, some patients are having to wait weeks to book a face-to-face appointment. As a result, Dr Begum is now holding private, regular surgeries at Blackburn’s Beardwood Hospital, giving patients access to swift and thorough GP consultations.

“Accessing your regular NHS GP has become problematic and if you do manage to see a doctor, continuity is also a problem,” says Dr Begum, who trained at Birmingham Medical School and qualified as a GP in 2008.

With a wealth of experience in general practice, she also specialises in complex diabetes cases, women’s health, respiratory and cardio-vascular diseases, weight

management and weight loss injections along with implants and general health checks.

Joining Beardwood in March this year, she is available for general consultations twice a week giving patients speedy access to appointments and the latest state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment at the hospital.

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“We have everything available here on site, that’s why I was keen to work with Beardwood,” says Dr Begum. “If a patient has an injury we can x-ray them here, we can refer patients for an MRI scan, take bloods – it’s ideal as the results come back extremely quickly.

“We also work alongside all the medical