

School Age Immunisation Service

☎ 0300 124 0366

Monday – Friday 8:30am-4.00pm

August 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### **Your child's flu vaccination is now due**

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

Even if your child had the vaccine last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended to have it again this year or they won't be protected.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

This academic year the School Age Immunisation Service are vaccinating students from Reception to Year 11 and up to Year 13 in special schools. Any young person who has had a consent form submitted and is outside of these year groups will not be vaccinated and the consent will be removed.

**Please complete the online consent form** (please only submit 1 form for each child) using the following link: <https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/> Choose the following from the dropdown list:

**The Howard Primary School – 18 Nov 2024 - Flu**

**Your school code is: SS142095-24**

**Consent forms must be submitted by- 10am on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**Please click on the link below to watch a short video regarding the Flu vaccination and how to complete the online consent form:**

[Your Child's Flu Vaccination - Information for Parents - YouTube](#)

**NOTE**, the consent form must be completed by someone with Parental Responsibility or Delegated Authority\* – please see the explanations of these terms at end of this letter.

Most children are offered a nasal spray vaccine which is a quick, simple and painless spray up the nose. This is the preferred vaccine. A link to the leaflet explaining the vaccination programme can be found at the bottom of the page, this includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

The nasal spray vaccine contains a very small amount of gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine) as an essential ingredient to keep it stable and able to work. For those who may not accept medicines or vaccines that contain porcine gelatine, a flu vaccine injection is available.

**If your child becomes wheezy, has a bad attack of asthma, or has started oral steroids for their asthma after you return this form, please contact the School Age Immunisation Service on 0300 124 0366.**

If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, please return the consent form giving the reason. This will inform us of your wishes to non-consent and help us plan and improve the service. A non-return of the consent form does not mean a non-consent.

**For further information see:** [www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)

If you have any queries, please contact the Immunisation Service on 0300 124 0366.

**Yours Sincerely**

**School Age Immunisation Service.** <https://www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/school-ageimmunisation>



[mpft.nhs.uk](http://mpft.nhs.uk)

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**\*PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

The person(s) with parental responsibility will usually, but not always be the child's birth parents. People with parental responsibility for the child include: the child's mother; the child's father if married to the mother at the child's conception, birth or later; a legally

appointed guardian; the local authority if the child is on a care order; or a person named in a residence order in respect of the child.

(Ref: [www.childrenslegalcentre.com](http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com))

**DELEGATED AUTHORITY:**

In particular circumstances, the person(s) who hold(s) parental responsibility may have given delegated authority to a foster carer to be able to give consent for immunisations. Where a foster carer does not hold delegated authority for immunisations please arrange for the local authority to complete and sign the enclosed form.

**Enc: Flu Leaflet Link**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66730c5864e554df3bd0db99/UKHSA\\_12922\\_Protecting\\_your\\_child\\_against\\_flu\\_leaflet\\_03\\_WEB.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66730c5864e554df3bd0db99/UKHSA_12922_Protecting_your_child_against_flu_leaflet_03_WEB.pdf)