

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. There may be a rebound in flu levels this coming winter following low levels in the past 2 years because of COVID-19 restrictions. **As per guidelines, this year the flu vaccine will be offered to all children in Reception to Year 9.**

The vaccination is free and is a quick, simple, and painless spray up the nose. 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.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme can be found by following the link below and includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

[Protecting your child against flu; Information for parents and carers \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/611212/protecting-your-child-against-flu-information-for-parents-and-carers.pdf)

If you would like your child to receive their nasal flu vaccination, please complete the consent form & return it to the school at least 1 week prior to our visit. If you do not wish for your child to receive this vaccination, please complete & return the consent form to the school with the 'I do not consent' box completed and give the reason why. This will help us to plan & improve the service accordingly, as well as assisting us with data reporting.

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

If you have any queries, please contact the healthcare team on 01743 730028.

Yours sincerely,



Debbie Jones
Clinical Lead, School Aged Immunisation Service (SAIS)

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 team on 01743 730028. If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, please return the consent form giving the reason. This will help us plan and improve the service. For further information see: www.nhs.uk/child-flu