

Be a Flu Fighter!

Last year we saw an increasing amount of children with flu-like symptoms. Some children in your local area were admitted to hospital and were confirmed as having influenza. In addition, several primary schools were closed due to flu-like illness.

Ensure you protect your child this winter!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

If your child is in Reception to Year 7 and you would like them to have the nasal flu spray then please turn over, complete the attached form, ensuring all relevant boxes are completed, and return the form to school ASAP. If you do not want your child to have the vaccination you do not need to do anything, do not complete the form.

This vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be a very serious illness and sometimes causes major health complications particularly in children and the elderly. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable friends and family by preventing the spread of flu. Please ensure you read and understand all the information by visiting https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/ before you complete the consent form.

While preventing the spread of Covid-19 and caring for those infected is a public health priority, it remains very important to maintain good coverage of immunisations, particularly in the childhood programme. In addition to protecting the individual, this will avoid outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases that could harm individuals and increase further the numbers of patients requiring health services.

Note: The nasal flu vaccine contains trace amounts of products derived from pigs (porcine gelatine). More information is available from www.nhs.uk/child-flu-FAQ

The vaccination is free and recommended for children and is given via a quick and simple spray up the nose.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us on: 0300 003 2554

Yours sincerely,

Karen Guest-Humphries Clinical Lead, Childhood Immunisation Team for Durham, Darlington and Teesside