

## Influenza immunisation for your child in school years Reception - 11

This year, all pupils from Reception to year 11 are being offered a flu vaccine at their school given as a simple squirt up the nose. It is painless, quick, and side effects are uncommon and generally mild. All pupils in special needs schools are eligible for the influenza immunisation. This is NOT the Covid Vaccination.

By having the flu vaccination, children are protected against the flu, which can be serious. Importantly, they are also less likely to pass the virus on to friends and family, especially those who may be at high risk from flu, such as babies, elderly people or friends and relatives with a serious health condition. It is predicted that we will see an increase in flu this year, due to previous lockdown measures and lack of natural protection. Vaccination is strongly advised to protect your child, your wider family and your community.

If you would prefer for your child to receive the flu injection, which does **not** contain porcine gelatine, please let your immunisation team know as soon as possible. The nasal spray offers the best protection from flu for children and young people, but there is an alternative flu vaccine available as an injection.

The consent form is also available on our website: [www.schoolvaccination.uk](http://www.schoolvaccination.uk)

Please find attached some frequently asked questions (FAQs) about this vaccine. In addition, information about this vaccine can be obtained using the following link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine-questions-and-answers/>

**Please complete and sign the attached consent form\* (one for each child) and return it to the school *within 1 week*.**

*\*The person who has parental responsibility must sign the consent form.*

**IF YOU WISH TO REFUSE THE VACCINE, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM AND TELL US WHY.**

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU RETURN THE FORM EVEN IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO HAVE THE VACCINE.**

If you would like further information, you can also contact us by email or telephone. Please include your child's school information when you contact us. Please see team contact details below.

### LONDON:

|                        |               |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Barking and Dagenham   | 0203 432 1464 | BarkingandDagenham@v-uk.co.uk   |
| Hackney & City         | 0207 613 8374 | HackneyandCity@v-uk.co.uk       |
| Haringey and Islington | 0208 017 7925 | Haringeyandislington@v-uk.co.uk |
| Havering               | 0203 432 1971 | Havering@v-uk.co.uk             |
| Newham                 | 0208 214 1394 | Newham@v-uk.co.uk               |
| Redbridge              | 0203 432 1537 | Redbridge@v-uk.co.uk            |
| Tower Hamlets          | 0203 613 9422 | Towerhamlets@v-uk.co.uk         |
| Waltham Forest         | 0208 214 1219 | WalthamForest@v-uk.co.uk        |

### HERTFORDSHIRE:

East, North & West  
Hertfordshire

[hertfordshire@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:hertfordshire@v-uk.co.uk)

**WEST MIDLANDS:**

|                |              |                                      |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dudley         | 01902 682674 | vaccinationdudley@evguk.co.uk        |
| Herefordshire  |              | Herefordshire@v-uk.co.uk             |
| Sandwell       |              | sandwell@v-uk.co.uk                  |
| Walsall        | 01902 683049 | vaccinationwalsall@evguk.co.uk       |
| Wolverhampton  | 01902 682922 | vaccinationwolverhampton@evguk.co.uk |
| Worcestershire |              | Worcestershire@v-uk.co.uk            |

If your child has asthma and becomes wheezy or has their medication increased after you return this form, please contact the immunisation team on the number or email above.

For information about how we use your child's data, please see the 'Privacy Notice' section of our website:  
[schoolvaccination.uk](https://schoolvaccination.uk)

For more information on the vaccine, please see 'More information about Fluenz Nasal Flu Vaccine' below.

Yours Sincerely,

***The School Immunisation Team***

***\*The consent form needs to be signed by a person with parental responsibility which includes:***

- Mother: automatic
- Father: if married to the mother either when baby is born or marries subsequently
- Unmarried father: if name appears on birth certificate (since 1/12/03) or legally acquired
- Others: if parental responsibility is legally acquired
- Parental Responsibility Agreement: signed, properly witnessed and sent for registration to Principle Registry or the Family Division (High Court)
- Residence Order: granted by the Court