

Influenza (Nasal Flu) immunisation for pupils in school years R - 11

Dear Parent/Carer,

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.

Please note, this is not the Covid vaccination.

This winter, there is a very high risk that the NHS could be overwhelmed with illness caused by influenza, and the death rate from flu could be higher too. It is now more important than ever to vaccinate as many people as possible against the flu. Children who have the flu vaccine are less likely to pass the virus on to friends and family, especially those who may be at greater risk from flu, such as infants, elderly people or friends and relatives with a serious health condition.

Attached are some frequently asked questions (FAQs) about this vaccine. You can also get more information about it 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 so your child can be given the vaccine in a timely way to protect them.

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

The consent form is also available on our website: www.schoolvaccination.uk, where it is available in English, as well as several other languages.

It is important to complete and return the form even if you do not want your child to have the vaccine.

If you would like further information, or you need help completing the form, you can contact the team in your child's school area by email or telephone. Please include your child's school information when you contact us. Our team contact details are over the page.

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 over the page.

We encourage you to share this information with your child / children.

Yours faithfully,



Amanda Schiller
Clinical Director
Vaccination UK

Immunisation Team Information

West Midlands:

Dudley	Dudley@v-uk.co.uk	01384 431 712
Sandwell	Sandwell@v-uk.co.uk	01215 921 110
Walsall	Walsall@v-uk.co.uk	01922 902 035
Wolverhampton	Wolverhampton@v-uk.co.uk	01902 200 077

Herefordshire and Worcestershire:

Herefordshire	Herefordshire@v-uk.co.uk	01432 663 085
Worcestershire	Worcestershire@v-uk.co.uk	01527 390 030

Additional Information:

**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
- *Please note that young people in **secondary or middle schools** under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.*