

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now available.

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.

The nasal flu spray called LAIV is the primary choice of vaccine offered to most children under the age of 18 as it is generally more effective in this age group than the inactivated injected vaccine.

LAIV nasal spray vaccine does contain a very small amount of porcine gelatine, used as a stabiliser, and we are aware that as some families may not accept the use of porcine gelatine in medical products. If wish your child to receive the alternative inactivated injected vaccine which does not contain porcine gelatine, please call our Immunisation Admin Hub on 0800 170 7055 (Option 5), to book an appointment in one of our countywide community clinics as this vaccine will not be offered in a school setting.

For more information relating to vaccines containing porcine gelatine, including information in other languages please click link: [HERE](#) and to visit the Oxford Knowledge Project who provide independent information about vaccines and infectious diseases click [HERE](#)

For further advice for parents and carers on the 2022-23 flu programme including details about the small number of children with medical conditions or treatments for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate, please click [HERE](#)

Please follow the link below to complete the consent form for your child.

[Flu Immunisation Consent Form \(for school aged children\) | NHFT](#)

If you do not want your child to receive the flu vaccination you are not required to submit the consent form, children will not be offered the vaccination without prior consent.

Please ensure you submit your e-consent as soon as possible, with the link to your child's school closing **72 working hours prior to school session. The school will advise you of the date of the session.**

Once the deadline closes you will only be able to access the vaccination from a community catch up clinic.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Please inform us immediately if any of the following occurs:

- If your child is unwell or has been off school in the 48 hours prior to vaccination session.
- If your child has a temperature the day before or on the day of vaccination session.
- If your child has been wheezy in the 48 hours prior to the vaccination session or they have had their asthma medication increased.
- If your child has taken or been commenced on **oral steroids** (not inhaled) in the 2 weeks prior to the vaccination session.
- If your child has been given the vaccination elsewhere.

If you need to inform us of any changes on the day of vaccination, please contact your child's school.

If you have any medical queries, please contact the
School Aged Immunisation Service on **0800 170 7055 Option 5**

Please note verbal consent for vaccination will not be taken on the above phonenumber once the e-consent link for your child's school has closed.

Yours sincerely,

NHFT School Aged Immunisation Service