

Children's Universal Services
Immunisation Team
12-18 Lennard Road
Croydon
CR9 2RS

Direct Line Tel: 020 8274 6453
Email: Ch-Tr.Immunisationteam@nhs.net
September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

The annual flu vaccination programme will run between September 2023 and 15th December 2023. The Immunisation Team will be visiting your child's school to administer the nasal flu vaccine. You will be notified of the session date by your school in due course. Please note that we are unable to offer the vaccine after 15th December 2023.

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. This annual vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against the flu. Vaccinating healthy children also helps to protect those more vulnerable by reducing the spread and transmission of flu.

The vaccine is recommended by the UK Health Security Agency and forms part of the routine immunisation schedule for all children from Reception to Year 11. It is given via a quick and simple spray up the nose. If your child attends a SEND School, we will offer the vaccine to all children under the age of 18. Please visit the following website for more information regarding the vaccine:

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

Please complete the attached consent form and return it to the school. Please ensure you complete this in a timely manner to ensure that your child is vaccinated at their school session. If you do not want your child to receive the vaccination, complete the consent form ticking the 'no consent' box and return it to the school, otherwise we may contact you. If you would like your child to receive an injectable vaccine that does not contain porcine gelatine, please call the team to discuss.

Your child's school will notify you of the date on which we are attending their school. If you wish to change your mind once you have submitted a consent form, please inform the school.

Any changes regarding your consent or health of your child must be communicated to your child's school by 09:00am on the day of vaccination.

Yours sincerely

Juliette Penney
Head of Public Health Nursing

Croydon Health Services NHS Trust

*Please note: the consent form must be completed by the person with parental responsibility for your child. For Children Looked After, the consent form must be signed by the child's Social Worker

** Asthmatic children who are eligible to receive the nasal flu vaccine should do so. Please note that the vaccine should not be administered to asthmatic children who have received oral steroids within the two weeks prior to the session, exhibited wheezing in the three days prior to the session, or have ever been admitted to intensive care due to an asthmatic attack.