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This letter contains important information about your child's flu vaccination.

HELP US HELP YOU
PROTECT AGAINST FLU

Autumn Term 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child's annual flu vaccination is due
KIRTLINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
11/10/2024

The annual school aged Flu vaccination programme is, this year, being offered to all children in Years Reception to Year 11. Flu can be a very unpleasant illness for children and sometimes causes serious complications. Children can catch and spread flu easily so vaccinating them also protects others who are vulnerable e.g. babies and older people. This is particularly important as COVID-19 continues to circulate and people at risk of flu are also vulnerable to the complications of COVID-19.

For most children, the Nasal Flu vaccination is painless and given by a quick and simple spray up the nose. In some medical circumstances it is necessary to administer the vaccine by intramuscular injection instead of the nasal spray, but this will always be discussed with parents/carers beforehand.

If you object to the nasal vaccination on the grounds of its contents (e.g. Porcine Gelatine) or if the vaccine is otherwise unsuitable, you may also choose for the vaccination to be administered by intramuscular injection. This injection will also be delivered in school on the date above. You can choose the Injected flu vaccination on the vaccination consent form. If you choose the Injected flu vaccination, please ensure your child wears a short-sleeved T shirt/school shirt, to reduce the need for any clothing adjustments.

Whether you wish for your child to have their Flu vaccine or you don't please follow the instructions below at least one school day before the session. After this date you will find the online system will not work. The system will reopen the day after the school session to enable a form to be registered and a clinic appointment be booked.

1. **Please read** either the Primary or Secondary Flu Leaflet which includes details about the Flu programme. If your child is asthmatic please also read the information below within "*Further Important Information*."
2. **Click** the link https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu
3. **Enter** the Unique School Code **OX123187**
4. **Complete** the form, one per child. *Please complete a form even if you are refusing the vaccination*.
5. **Read** the "Further Important Information" overleaf

Yours faithfully,

R Conlan

Rachael Conlan, Immunisation County Team Lead

*The information collected on the consent form will be securely sent to the National Immunisation and Vaccination System, the NHS Child Health Information Service and to your Doctor/GP Practice. It will also be retained by OHFT. For further information you can read our fair processing policy here:**www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/privacy/** RC Sept 2024*

Further Important Information- Please read

1. **Team Contact details**

   Email immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk.
   Tel. no 07920 254 400. Help to complete the Consent Form is available.
   Website www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/

2. **Asthma or other illness** –

   We may not be able to safely vaccinate your child on the arranged date if any of the conditions below occur

   - In the 3 days before the vaccination date, your child has been wheezy and/or increased the use of their Bronchodilators (eg reliever Inhaler or oral reliever medication)

AND/OR

   - Your child receives Corticosteroid treatment (steroids) in the 3 months before the vaccination date for ANY health condition.

AND/OR

   - Your child has taken prescribed influenza antiviral agents in the 2 days before the vaccination date.

   If any of the above occurs It is **very important** that you provide a written note with your child's name, dob, year group and the updating information to be given to the vaccination team on the day of vaccination. If your child is too young to be able to do this, please hand the letter to the school reception and ask that it is given to the vaccination team as they arrive and **mark it as urgent**. Please **also call** the Immunisation Team on 07920 254 400 before 08:45 on the day of vaccination.

3. Children aged 2 years to less than 9 years **who are in a clinical risk group** category and who have **not received the flu vaccine before**, should receive a second dose of LAIV at least 4 weeks after the first dose. Please contact your child's GP if you believe your child requires a second dose.

4. **Withdrawing Consent or if the Vaccination has been given at the GP Practice after the consent form was submitted –**

   If you have submitted your child's form and then change your mind and no longer wish your child to be vaccinated

   or

   you have submitted a form and then your child has their vaccination at the GP Practice before the school session,

   Please advise us via email withdrawconsentSAIS@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk at least one full school day before the session **and** on the day of the vaccination session provide a written note to your child's School Reception for the urgent attention of the Immunisation Team. Please state in the letter and in the email subject heading, your child's school, name, year group and date of birth.

5. **Missed the school session?**

   Community Clinics will be held across the county to enable children who may have missed the school session to be vaccinated. Please go to our website to book your child's appointment.

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6. **Older Children and Consent –** Some young people in secondary school, who understand fully what is involved in a proposed procedure, such as vaccination, can legally provide their own consent. (usually Year 9 and above).

7. **Translated Flu Leaflet-** The Flu leaflet is also available in the following languages English, Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Bulgarian, Chinese (simplified), Chinese (traditional, Cantonese), Estonian, Farsi, French, Greek, Gujarati, Hindi, Latvian, Lithuanian, Panjabi, Pashto, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Romany, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Turkish, Twi, Ukrainian, Urdu and Yiddish

8. **Information Links**

"Flu and your Primary aged child" information leaflet can be found by clicking here

"Flu and your Secondary aged child" information leaflet can be found by clicking here.

The Vaccine knowledge Project - Home | Vaccine Knowledge Project (ox.ac.uk). The Vaccine Knowledge Project provides independent, evidence-based information about vaccines and infectious diseases and is managed by the University of Oxford.

9. **Information regarding a research study.**

A research team at the University of Oxford are exploring whether a new virtual reality therapy can help young people overcome a fear of needles. They are looking for young people aged 12-15 (inclusive) with needle fears to take part in this study. Everyone who takes part will have the chance to try the virtual reality therapy. There is a limit on the number of people who can take part. If you are interested in finding out more, please get in touch with Dr Eve Twivy (Email: needlefear@psy.ox.ac.uk or Phone: 07823 809582).

Please note this Study is independent of the School Aged Immunisation Service and your child may therefore be vaccinated on the date(s) indicated. Your child's vaccine does not need to be delayed for them to be eligible for this Study.

We welcome your feedback on what we do well or how you feel we could improve.
Please follow this link to `I Want Great care` and let us know. Use code 5180
You can also view feedback from other parent/carers here