

September 2024

Dear parent/carer

**The flu vaccine will be offered to all children from reception to year 11 this winter.**

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Having the flu vaccine protects your child and your family and friends, by preventing the spread of flu. It is recommended to have the vaccine every year as the type of flu can vary each winter. The vaccination is a quick and painless spray up the nose.

The Immunisation Service will be visiting your child's school on **12th December 2024**.

**Please discuss this immunisation with your child and complete the online form at:**

[www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms](http://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms)

**before midnight on 06/12/2024 to let us know if you would like your child to receive the vaccine.**

By submitting a form, you will be entered into a prize draw and the chance for you and your child to both to win a £50 Amazon voucher each.

Please submit either a YES consent or DECLINE consent as we will continue to invite your child to be vaccinated unless we hear from you. This may mean that one of our team calls you to obtain verbal consent over the phone. Young people can consent to their own health care if they are assessed as competent to do so. For further information on young people's right to consent please click [here](#)

If we are unable to vaccinate your child at school you will receive an email with a link to our online clinic booking site where you can book an immunisation appointment.

### How can we help you?

We can provide communication support or information in different formats. Please tell us if you need:

- An interpreter, a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter
- Information in large print, Braille, Easy Read (using pictures) or audio
- Information or leaflets in other languages

If you would like to find out what happens to personal information held about you, please read the [your personal information](#) section on our Legal page. You can also read our [privacy policy](#) for more information.

Kind regards

Immunisation Service

**Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust**

Text chat: [07700140385](tel:07700140385)

Live chat via our website: [www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms](http://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms)

Email: [kchft.cyp-immunisationteam@nhs.net](mailto:kchft.cyp-immunisationteam@nhs.net)

Telephone: [0300 123 5205](tel:03001235205)

#### **Please note:**

- If your child becomes wheezy, has a bad attack of asthma, or has started oral steroids for their asthma after you submit the consent form, please contact us on 0300 123 5205.
  - The nasal flu spray is the most effective vaccine but contains pork gelatine. For those who may not accept the use of pork gelatine in medical products, an alternative **injectable** vaccine is available this year. The consent form has an option to select the injectable flu vaccine instead of the nasal spray.
  - If your child is in an at-risk health group they may also receive an invite letter from the GP. If your child is vaccinated by the GP please inform us as soon as possible.
  - The online form expires at the end of each academic year so you will be invited to consent or decline for the yearly vaccination again next year.
- For further information see: [www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)