Flu immunisation for pupils in school years Reception - Year 11

DEAR PARENT/CARER,

The flu vaccine is being offered at your child's school again this autumn/winter.

To give consent for your child to have the flu vaccine, please click here:

https://london.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2024/redbridge

Even if you do not wish for your child to have the vaccine, please complete the online form so that we can record your wishes.

THE NASAL FLU VACCINE

- ✓ Protects your child from the flu
- ✓ Protects your family and friends from the flu (especially those who are elderly, young babies, or those who have serious health conditions)
- ✓ Is painless, quick and effective
- ✓ **Is free**
- ✓ The nasal flu vaccine is very effective at reducing the spread of flu

THE IM FLU VACCINE

We also offer the flu vaccine as an injection, which is **gelatine-free**. Please see our Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

You only need to complete one consent form for each child. If you later change your mind, please call your local team. If your child has this immunisation elsewhere after you have submitted the consent form, you **MUST** inform Vaccination UK rather than the school.

We understand that you may have questions about the vaccine. For more information, please go to our website, where you can find a list of FAQ's, as well as details of our community catch up clinics. We also have some FAQ's enclosed below.

You can also find informational videos on our YouTube channel, including subtitled versions for other languages.

Yours Faithfully,

Your Local Immunisation Team

Vaccination UK

Vaccination UK

REDBRIDGE

Immunisation Team Contact Details

redbridge@v-uk.co.uk

0203 3432400

WORKING ON BEHALF OF

NHS England

USEFUL INFO

We try to come to your child's school twice. If they are absent or unable to be vaccinated at school, you will need to attend one of our community clinics for the vaccine. Details of these can be found on our website or you can contact the team above.

PLEASE NOTE the flu vaccine will **NOT** be available to otherwise healthy children after **December 13th** at all, and so we urge you to return the consent form as soon as possible in case we are not able to visit your child's schools for a second visit this year.

Your consent will remain in place for the entire flu season. If your child misses a first visit, you do not need to complete a second form.

USEFUL LINKS

www.schoolvaccination.uk/nasal-flu

www.youtube.com/@vaccinationuk

PRIVACY POLICY

Our 2024/25 policy can be viewed here:
www.schoolvaccination.uk/privacy-policy
For data protection queries, please contact:
dpo@vaccinationuk.co.uk

REDBRIDGE E Consent.indd 1 19/07/2024 13:00

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 under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are there any side effects of the vaccine?

Possible side effects are: decreased appetite, headache, a runny or blocked nose, and sometimes a raised temperature. These are common, but they pass quickly and can be treated with paracetamol or ibuprofen if you feel your child needs it.

Are there any children who shouldn't have the nasal vaccine?

You should let us know if your child has any of the following:

- A very severe allergy to eggs, egg proteins, gentamicin or gelatine – it is important for us to know if your child has been admitted to hospital with a condition called anaphylaxis, triggered by these things.
- Are currently wheezy or have been wheezy in the past 72 hours with asthma. There is an alternative flu vaccine that we can talk to you about to ensure that your child is protected as soon as possible.
- Have a condition that severely weakens their immune system.

Also, children who have been vaccinated should avoid close contact with people with *very severely* weakened immune systems for around two weeks following vaccination (By severely weakened, we generally mean people who are isolating, such as those who have received some types of chemotherapy or people who have had a bone marrow transplant, for example). This is because there's an extremely remote chance that the vaccine virus may be passed to them.

Contact with other healthy children or adults does not need to be limited after having the vaccine.

We do not eat pork products. Can my child have a different flu vaccine?

Yes. There is a flu vaccine available, in the form of an injection.

The nasal flu vaccine is the best vaccine for children and young people under 18 years of age as it is more effective at stopping the spread of flu and it is painless, but it does have a highly processed form of gelatine (porcine gelatine), which is used in a range of many essential medicines. The gelatine helps to keep the vaccine viruses stable so that the vaccine provides the best protection against flu.

If your faith or beliefs mean you would prefer a vaccine that has no pork (porcine gelatine) in it, please complete the consent for the flu injection only. You do not need to complete a form for both.

REDBRIDGE E Consent.indd 2 19/07/2024 13:00