

This letter contains important information.

Please submit the consent form online as soon as possible.



Childhood Flu programme 2021

Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due at The Warriner School.

30-Sept-2021 Years 7,8 and 9

07-Oct-2021 Years 10 and 11

Please note if your child is due their vaccination on the second date this may be brought forward to the earlier date if we have capacity.

An annual flu vaccination is now part of the UK childhood vaccination schedule. The vaccine will help to protect your child against flu, which can cause them a very nasty illness. This year helping to protect more children than ever before against flu is particularly important as COVID-19 is still circulating and people at risk of flu are also vulnerable to the complications of COVID -19. The school-based Flu programme is therefore being extended to include all children from Reception up to and including Year 11. Please be aware that the date may be subject to change. Further information is available on our website: www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/school-health-nurses .

Please note: this consent form is for the Flu vaccination only, any correspondence regarding the proposed Covid Vaccination program for 12yrs –15yrs will be sent separately.

The vaccination is usually given as a quick and simple spray up the nose, however if you object to the nasal vaccination being given due to it containing Porcine Gelatine you can choose for your child to have an intramuscular injection instead. Please remember that the injection is not as effective as the nasal spray and that it may cause your child some distress. This injection will also be given in school, wherever possible, without a parent present.

CONSENT FORM

PLEASE CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK

<https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/forms/flu>

You will need your child's NHS No. to complete the form. This can be found in your Child's Red Book or by ringing your GP Practice.

The unique code for your child's school

OX142218

Please submit your form by 5pm, 2 full school days before the first school session to ensure your child receives their vaccination, the link will close on this date.

Late consents will not be accepted – Please submit before the close date

If you have any difficulties accessing or completing the Consent Form please call the Immunisation Team on 07920 254 400

Please note all young people aged 16yrs plus, will, in addition to you completing the Consent Form, be asked to verbally consent to the vaccination being administered on the day of vaccination.

Important parent/carer information - Please read the leaflet available [here](#) (Primary school age) or [here](#) (Secondary school age) which explains the vaccination programme. If you require a hard copy, please contact the Immunisation Team Assistant. It is important that you read this leaflet carefully and discuss with your child so that you are fully informed to provide consent for your child and for them to be prepared to receive the vaccination. Further information is also available at: www.nhs.uk/child-flu.

Children at high risk from flu - If your child is at high risk from flu due to one or more medical conditions and can't have the nasal flu vaccine, they should have the flu vaccine by injection. Children at high risk are offered the flu vaccine each year from their GP and you can choose if you would like your child to be vaccinated by the Immunisation Team or at your GP surgery. This includes children with Asthma who require continuous or repeated use of an inhaled or systemic (oral) **steroid** or who have had previous episodes of asthma requiring hospital admission.

Asthma- We may not be able to vaccinate your child on the arranged dates in school if your child:-

- is unwell on the day of vaccination

or

- if they are currently taking or have been prescribed steroid tablets to control their asthma in the two weeks prior to the vaccination session in school

or

- if they have a history of active wheezing in the 3 days prior to the vaccination session and/or have increased the use of their Bronchodilator in the 3 days prior to the vaccination session in school

or

- If they have increased the use of their inhaled steroids since the consent form was completed

It is therefore very important that you inform both your School Health Nurse Assistant on the number below and your school office before 08:45 on the day of vaccination if any of the above apply.

Catch up sessions – Your child will only be offered the vaccine in school once. If your child is unwell or absent on the day of vaccination, the immunisation team (not your GP) will offer catch up appointments in clinics out of school but these sessions are limited and where possible, this vaccine should be given at school. If you have submitted a consent form you will receive an email explaining how to book this appointment.

Declining the offer of flu vaccination - If your child has already been vaccinated; booked to have the vaccine at their GP's as they are in a high risk group or you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, please complete and submit the consent form refusing the vaccination. If you would like to share why you do not want your child to receive the flu vaccine, this will help us plan and improve the service.

Withdrawing Consent – If you wish to withdraw consent please **submit another consent form refusing the vaccination at least 2 full school days before the vaccination session.** Please ensure you also make further contact as below

1. Ring and speak to the Immunisation Team Administrator on the number below
2. Inform your school before 08:45 and request that your message is given to the School Nursing team coming to your school.

Yours sincerely,



Susan Mahoney
Immunisation Team Leader, School Health Nursing

Contact Details
School Health Nurse Assistant
Lucy Peppiatt 07795302416
For <u>non-urgent enquiries</u> . This mailbox is checked weekly. Email: ImmunisationTeam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk
Further information is also available on our website at: https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/school-health-nurses/immunisations/flu-immunisations/