

July 2023

Dear parent / carer

All children in Reception to year 11 are invited to have a flu vaccination 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's 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 Kent and Medway School Immunisation Service will be visiting your child's school on **31/10/2023 & 01/11/2023.**

Please discuss this immunisation with your child and complete the online form at: www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms before midnight on 23/10/2023 to tell us if your child is getting the vaccine or not.

By completing the 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 a NO 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](#)

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, or information in another language
- Information in large print, Braille, Easy Read (using pictures) or audio.

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

School Aged Immunisation Service
Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

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

If you have any questions, please [email us](#), phone us on 0300 123 5205, text us on 07401320923 or [click here to Web chat](#)