

Immunisation Team
Children And Young Peoples
Service
1010 Pioneer Avenue
Gloucester Business Park
Brockworth
Gloucester
GL3 4AW
0300 421 8140

Dear Parent/Guardian

Flu vaccination for children in Reception to Year 4

From October 2017, Gloucestershire's Immunisation Team will be offering the nasal flu vaccination programme to all children in Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 & 4. As an extension to the national flu immunisation programme your child will be offered a flu vaccine that is given as a simple spray up the nose. It is painless, very quick, and side effects are uncommon. This vaccination programme is designed to protect your child against flu which can be an unpleasant illness and although rarely, sometimes causes serious complications. By having the flu vaccination, children are also less likely to pass the virus on to friends and family. This will help to protect those who are at greater risk from flu including infants, older people and those with an underlying health condition. The flu vaccine provides protection against the strains that are predicted to circulate in the coming season. These strains may change from year to year which is why we recommend vaccination every year.

A leaflet explaining the programme is enclosed. In order for your child to receive the immunisation please complete the online consent form (one per child) so that your child can be given the vaccine in school by accessing the following link.

<https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/vaccinationsystem/fluconsent>

If you do not have access to the internet, paper consent forms can be accessed via your school receptionist. If opting to consent via the paper consent form please return it to school within one week.

Please note if the consent form is not returned your child will not be able to have the vaccine. Please contact your school, or the Immunisation Team on 0300 421 8140 for the date planned for your school. For more information about the flu vaccine please see the Immunisation Team website at:

<https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/our-services/children-young-people/immunisation>

If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased just before or on the day of the vaccination session, please contact The Immunisation Team on 0300 421 8140

Please remember to return the consent form even if you DO NOT consent to the vaccination for your child, explaining the reason for your decision. This will help us in the development of the flu vaccination programme.

Thank you for returning the consent form.
Gloucestershire Immunisation Team