

Bexley School Age Immunisation Team
Hounslow & Richmond Community Healthcare NHS Trust

The Engine House
2 Veridion Way,
Erith, Kent DA18 4HT

8th September 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child's flu vaccination is now due

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. With COVID-19 still in circulation it is important to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter to help protect them, the NHS and social care. Research also shows that if you get both flu and COVID-19 at the same time you may be more seriously ill.

Please follow the link to complete an online consent form (one for each child) to ensure your child receives their vaccination.

<https://sav.hrch.nhs.uk/flu/2022/bexley>

The link will be **closed 2 days before** the immunisation date for your child/ren school. The link will be reopened again the **following morning** after the main immunisation session.

The vaccination is free and is a quick, simple and painless spray up the nose. Even if your child had the vaccine last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended to have it again this year or they won't be protected.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme can be picked up in school and includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

The healthcare team and school will follow guidelines to ensure children are safe when being offered the vaccine.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

If you have any queries, please contact the healthcare team on 0203 903 3380

Yours sincerely,

School Age Vaccination Team Bexley

If your child becomes wheezy, has a bad attack of asthma, or has started oral steroids for their asthma after you return this form, please let the school know to inform the nurses on the immunisation day.

If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, please return the consent form giving the reason. This will help us plan and improve the service.

For further information see: www.nhs.uk/child-flu