



Immunisation Team
Edward Jenner Court
1010 Pioneer Avenue
Brockworth
Gloucester
GL3 4AW

Tel: 0300 421 8140

FLUimmunisation@ghc.nhs.uk

Flu Season 2024/2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

**FLU VACCINATION FOR ALL SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN
(From Reception up to and including Year 11)**

This year it has been confirmed that the National Flu Vaccination Programme for 2024/2025 is being offered to all school aged children from Reception up to and including Year 11.

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due. It is important that you consent or decline the flu vaccination as soon as possible. If you do not respond, we will contact you again to make sure that you have received the offer of vaccination.

Giving consent

Please complete the consent form online (one for each child, please) using the following link ensure you use the Unique School Code below:

[Flu Vaccination Consent Form \(ghcimmunisations.co.uk\)](https://ghcimmunisations.co.uk)

Cheltenham Bournside School Unique Code: GC136725

This link will close at midday on the working day before the team is due to visit so please complete this as soon as possible as the team will be unable to take any consents after this point. If you are unable to access the online consent form for any reason, please contact Gloucestershire Immunisation Team on 0300 421 8140 or email:

FLU.Immunisation@ghc.nhs.uk

Why vaccinate

This vaccination will help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

The vaccination is a quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, it is recommended to have the flu vaccine again this year.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation. A leaflet explaining the programme is enclosed.

Students at secondary school

If we do not receive the completed decision form, each young person may be assessed on an individual basis and invited to self-consent for the vaccination, providing they can demonstrate an understanding of the vaccination being given. This is in-line with the Gillick competency and consent to treatment guidance which can be found at [Consent to treatment - Children and young people - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/consult/condtreat/childrenandyoungpeople/)

Getting the vaccine sooner

If your school's scheduled date is late within the autumn term and you wish to vaccinate your child earlier, please contact the team and book your child into one of our community clinics.

Is there Porcine Gelatine in the nasal spray?

The nasal spray contains very small amounts of porcine gelatine, which is used as a stabiliser in the vaccine. Some people may not accept the use of porcine gelatine in medical products. For these children, there is an alternative injectable vaccine available this year and parents/carers should contact the team on the number below to book a clinic appointment as the injectable vaccination will not be delivered at school-based sessions.

Changed your mind?

If you have changed your mind and no longer want your child to be vaccinated, please email WithdrawConsentSAIS@GHC.NHS.UK at least **one full school day** before the session.

If withdrawing consent on the day of the vaccination session, please provide a written letter to your child's school reception for the urgent attention of the immunisation team. You will need to provide your child's name, date of birth and year group. If your child is too young to hand in the letter themselves, please ensure you give it to school reception at the start of the school day.

Need more information?

If you have any queries or would like any further information please contact the immunisation team on **0300 421 8140**.

Yours sincerely

Caroline

Caroline Halford
Head of School Aged Immunisations

If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased after you return this form, please inform the Immunisation Team via email on FLUimmunisation@ghc.nhs.uk or alternatively, please ensure the school is made prior to 9:00am of the school-based session. For further information see: www.nhs.uk/child-flu

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