

November 2022

## **Influenza (flu) vaccination**

Dear Parent/Guardian

We will be offering the annual flu vaccine to all students in Reception to Year 9 this autumn and winter as part of the national NHS Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme.

Flu can be a very unpleasant illness, and for some it can cause serious complications. The vaccination programme is in place to protect your child against flu. It also helps to protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing its spread.

### **Important next steps:**

Please take time to read the flu information available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccination-leaflets-and-posters>.

If you have any questions, or if you think your child should have the injected vaccine instead of the nasal spray vaccine, please contact us.

1. As the flu vaccine will be delivered to your child in school, we also need you to complete the online consent. Consent can only be given by a parent/guardian/adult with parental responsibility\*.
2. If you are unable to complete the electronic consent form, please contact the relevant team for your child's school on the telephone number overleaf.

**The session for Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School is on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**The online consent form closes at 11am on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December.**

1. **Click on the following link:** [www.BWimmunisations.co.uk](http://www.BWimmunisations.co.uk)
2. **Enter and confirm your preferred email address** – you will receive a confirmation email following submission of the consent form.
3. **Enter your school code: BW144799**
4. **Complete and submit the consent form**, indicating your choice of consent - please ensure you provide your child's registered address and GP.

If you do not want your child to have these vaccinations, please still complete the consent form where you will have the option to decline the vaccinations. If you do not indicate whether you want your child to be vaccinated or not and your child is in year 7 – 9 and requests the vaccination, it may be appropriate for your child to give their own consent.

\* **Parental responsibility consent includes:** Mother; father named on the birth certificate or married to the mother; adult granted parental responsibility by the courts; adult with delegated authority consent (given by the Local Authority when children are on a care order).

For a child to give their own consent, the immunisation nurse will assess your child's competency to consent considering what having the vaccination involves, their understanding of the benefits of receiving the vaccination and the risks of not having it.

When you have returned online consent, please contact the School-aged Immunisation Team if any of the following apply:

- Your child has had their asthma medication increased (including inhalers and/or steroid tablets)
- Your child is prescribed any new medication
- Your child is wheezy on the day or in the three days prior to the flu vaccination
- Your child receives their flu vaccination elsewhere (such as GP or chemist etc.)
- You change your mind about your child receiving/not receiving the vaccination

On the day of your child's vaccination in school, you will receive an email to confirm the vaccination was administered. Details about your child's vaccination will also be put on their health record and shared with their GP.

Further information, such as the planned dates of the vaccination in your child's school can be found on our NHS website, using this address: [www.tiny.cc/imm](http://www.tiny.cc/imm). You can also visit the website by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone or tablet. Our dedicated website also includes information about:

- How we use and protect your information and why we sometimes need to share your data
- The different school-aged vaccination programmes we deliver
- Patient information leaflets for the vaccines we use
- Updates to any planned delivery schedule we need to change at your child's school



Thank you for taking the time to read this important information. If you have any questions, please contact your local School-aged Immunisation Team using the details below.

Yours sincerely

### **School-aged Immunisation Team**

#### **Halton Borough**

Tel: 0151 495 5066

Email:

[BCHFT.haltonimmsteam@nhs.net](mailto:BCHFT.haltonimmsteam@nhs.net)

#### **Warrington Borough**

Tel: 01925 946808

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[BCHFT.warringtonimmsteam@nhs.net](mailto:BCHFT.warringtonimmsteam@nhs.net)