Your healthcare closer to home

School Age Immunisation Team

Barnet Team Mill Hill Clinic Hartley Avenue Mill Hill NW7 2HX Tel: 0208-447-3622

September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

## Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu and this year is being offered to all children from Reception to Year 6 and Year 7 to 11. 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 in circulation it is more important than ever to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter to help protect them and the NHS.

This year, the flu vaccination will not be available after 15 December 2023 as instructed by NHS England. If you wish for your child to be vaccinated, 15 December is the last day that the vaccine will be available.

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

Please note that there is <u>porcine gelatine</u> contained in the Nasal Flu spray. This and other product information is contained in the link below. An alternative to the Nasal Flu spray which will also offer protection against Flu is the Inactivated Quadrivalent Flu vaccination given via intramuscular injection.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme can be found at this link:

## Primary school Flu information link

This includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

We are due to immunise at your child's school, Wessex Gardens, on Thursday 28 September 2023, AM session. Our consent process is electronic. In order to

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access the online consent form, please click on the following link <a href="https://clchschoolimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu">https://clchschoolimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu</a>

You will need to <u>enter the unique code for your child's school</u>. The code is **CL131617** Please submit your form well before our team are due to visit the school to ensure your child receives their vaccination, because access will be closed 1-2 working days before the vaccination session. If you experience any problems accessing the form, please telephone your local team on the number provided above and the team will be happy to help.

If you have any queries, please contact Barnet School-aged Immunisation team on the number provided at the top of the page.

Yours sincerely,

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Lead Nurse School Age Immunisation

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 contact the healthcare team.

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