

Immunisation Service (0-19)

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Phone: 0300 123 5205**Email:** kchft.cyp-immunisationteam@nhs.net**Website:** <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/immunisation-team/>

19 November 2019

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Dear parent/carer

Your child's annual nasal flu vaccination is now due

For the first time this autumn all primary school aged children will be offered the flu vaccination. This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu, which is an unpleasant illness that can cause serious health complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable friends and family by preventing the spread of flu.

The vaccination is a pain-free, quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, it is advisable to have the flu vaccine again this year because flu viruses are constantly changing.

Please complete the online consent form marking whether you consent **or** decline consent at <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/forms/childhood-flu-immunisation-consent-form/> **before 9 December 2019.**

Please note the online consent form will close at midday on the above date and your child will not be vaccinated in school – we cannot accept late consents.

However, you can call us to book your child into a community clinic.

Where possible please avoid peak times to complete the consent form, these are 8am, 12noon and 4pm. If you experience any issues accessing the form please try again a bit later. If you continue to experience problems please call or send us an email.

Please visit our website www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/immunisation-team/ to access a leaflet explaining the flu vaccination programme. This leaflet also includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate. If you have any further queries, please contact the Immunisation Service on 0300 123 5205.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Burton

Chairman John Goulston Chief Executive Paul Bentley

Trust HQ The Oast, Unit D, Hermitage Court, Hermitage Lane, Barming, near Maidstone, Kent ME16 9NT

Head of School Public Health and Immunisation Service

Please note:

If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased after you return the form, please contact the Immunisation Service on 0300 123 5205.

If your child is in an at risk health group they may also receive an invite letter from the GP. If your child is vaccinated by the GP please inform us as soon as possible.

The school flu vaccination programme ends on 31 December, after this time you will need to book your child into a community clinic which will run until the end of January 2020.