

School Aged Immunisation Service (SAIS)

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Website: <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms>

   @kchftimmsteam

August 2022

Dear parent / carer

Your child is invited to have a flu vaccination this winter.

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will help protect them and more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. There may be a rebound in flu levels this coming winter following low levels in the past two years as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

The vaccination is a quick 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. There is no charge for the vaccine.

The Kent and Medway School Immunisation Service will be visiting your child's school on **20 October 2022.**

Please complete the online form before 12 October 2022 to either consent or decline the vaccination at www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms

Please submit either a YES consent or a NO consent as we will continue to invite your child to be vaccinated unless we hear from you. This may mean that one of our team calls you to obtain verbal consent over the phone.

If we are unable to vaccinate your child at school you will receive an email with a link to our online clinic booking site where you can book an immunisation appointment.

We have produced a short animation for you to show your child what the spray will be like via our website at www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms. Please click on the menu option 'School age flu vaccinations'.

How can we help you?

We can provide communication support or information in different formats. Please tell us if you need:

- An interpreter, a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter, or information in another language
- Information in large print, Braille, Easy Read (using pictures) or audio.

If you would like to find out what happens to personal information held about you, please read the [your personal information](#) section on our Legal page. You can also read our [privacy policy](#) for more information.

Kind regards

School Age Immunisation Service

Please note:

- If your child becomes wheezy, has a bad attack of asthma, or has started oral steroids for their asthma after you submit the consent form, please contact us on 0300 123 5205.
- The nasal flu vaccine contains a highly-processed form of gelatine derived from pigs (porcine gelatine). For those who may not accept the use of porcine gelatine in medical products, an alternative injectable vaccine is available this year. The consent form has an option to select the injectable flu vaccine. Injectable vaccines are not given in primary school so a member of our team will contact you and book your child into a convenient community clinic.
- 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.

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

If you have any questions, please [email us](#), phone us on 0300 123 5205, text us on 07401320923 or [click here to Web chat](#)