

Children's Universal Services
Immunisation Team
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Croydon
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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The annual flu vaccination programme will run between September and December 2021. The Immunisation Team will be visiting your child's school to administer the nasal flu vaccine. You will be notified of the session date by your school in due course.

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. This annual vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against the flu. Vaccinating healthy children also helps to protect those more vulnerable by reducing the spread and transmission of flu. **The presence of COVID-19 this winter season increases the importance of flu vaccine uptake for those who are vulnerable or who have regular contact with the vulnerable population.**

The vaccine is recommended by Public Health England and forms part of the routine immunisation schedule for all children. As you may be aware, the programme will now be offered to all students in Reception to school Year 11. It is given via a quick and simple spray up the nose. Please visit the following link for more information regarding the vaccine:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907433/Protecting_Child_Against_Flu_DL_leaflet_2020.pdf

Consent forms will be digital this year, please await further information via your child's school on how to complete the consent form.

Any changes regarding the health of your child must be communicated via email to your child's school by 09:00am on the day of vaccination.**

Yours sincerely,

Sinéad Hylton
Clinical Service Lead
Croydon Health Services NHS Trust

*Please note: the consent form must be completed by the person with parental responsibility for your child. For Looked After Children, the consent form must be completed by the child's Social Worker

** Asthmatic children who are eligible to receive the nasal flu vaccine should do so. Please note that the vaccine should not be administered to asthmatic children who have received oral steroids within the two weeks prior to the session, exhibited wheezing in the three days prior to the session, or has been admitted to intensive care due to an asthmatic attack.

