Kent Community Health

NHS Foundation Trust

Immunisation Service (0-19)

Trinity House 110-120 Upper Pemberton Eureka Park Ashford Kent TN25 4AZ

Phone: 0300 123 5205 Text: 07401320923 Email: <u>kchft.cyp-immunisationteam@nhs.net</u> Website: <u>https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms</u>

September 2021

@kchftimmunisationteam
Twitter: @ImmsKchft

Dear parent/carer

Your child's flu vaccination is now due

The 2021-2022 school-age flu vaccination programme has now been extended to include all students in years 7 to 11.

Flu can be an unpleasant and sometimes serious illness. Vaccinating your child against flu will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends.

The vaccination is free and 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.

The Kent and Medway School Immunisation Service will be visiting your child's school on **17/11/2021** and **18/11/2021**.

Please complete the online consent form https://childconsent.co.uk/kchft before 12/11/2021

To use the consent form you will need to enter **one** of the following details for your child:

- NHS number or
- Legal surname, their date of birth and postcode

Please note the online consent form will close at **midnight** on the above date, after which your child will not be vaccinated in school. **We cannot accept late consent**; however, you can call us to book your child into a community catch-up clinic at a later date.

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. Please ensure

Chairman John Goulston Chief Executive Paul Bentley Trust HQ The Oast, Unit D, Hermitage Court, Hermitage Lane, Barming, near Maidstone, Kent ME16 9NT

that your contact information on the consent form is up-to-date and always make sure you notify your GP of any changes to your address and phone number.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme can be found <u>here</u> and includes details about the small number of children who can't have the nasal vaccine.

If you have any further queries, please either <u>email us</u>, phone us on 0300 123 5205, text us on 07401320923 or <u>click here to Web chat</u>

Kind regards

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Catherine Burton

Head of School Age Immunisation Service Kent and Medway Immunisation Team Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

Please note:

- If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased after you return the 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 injectable vaccine is only given in a clinic setting. To book a clinic appointment please contact the Immunisation Hub.
- 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.
- If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, please still complete the online consent form giving the reason. This will help us plan and improve the service.

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

Your information

If you would like to find out what happens to personal information held about you, please read the <u>your personal information</u> section on our Legal page. You can also read our <u>privacy policy</u> for more information.