

Richmond and Kingston
School Age Immunisation team
Centre House
68 Sheen Lane
SW14 8LP

Date: 1st September 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child's flu vaccination is now due

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. 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 still in circulation it is important to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter to help protect them, the NHS and social care. Research also shows that if you get both flu and COVID-19 at the same time you may be more seriously ill.

Please follow the link below to complete an online consent form (one for each child) to ensure your child receives their vaccination.

<https://sav.hrch.nhs.uk/flu/2021/kingston>

The vaccination is free and is a quick, simple 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.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme is enclosed and includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

The healthcare team and school will follow guidelines to ensure children are safe when being offered the vaccine. Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

If you have any queries, please contact the healthcare team on:

Kingston Schools: Email HRCH.ImmunisationTeamKingstonMailbox@nhs.net Tel: 0203 691 1027 / 1043

Yours sincerely,

School Aged Vaccination Team

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 on the above number.

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