

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Autumn Term 2016

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due

A yearly flu vaccination is now part of the UK childhood vaccination schedule. This vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against flu. Flu vaccination is offered each year between October and January. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family members and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

The vaccination is painless and free, given by a quick and simple spray up the nose.

Date of vaccination session - the nasal flu vaccination will be given in school to children in year groups 1, 2 & 3. Children in reception class will be invited to their GP for the vaccination. The school nurse team will visit each primary school once and the date will be given to you by your child's school. The dates will also be available on our website:

<http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/children-and-young-people/oxon/school-health-nursing/flu-immunisations/>

Catch up sessions - if your child is unwell or absent on the day of vaccination there will be appointments available in December/January. Please call the school nurse office nearest your child's school if you need to book an appointment. (Phone numbers overleaf)

Important parent/carer information - Please read the leaflet enclosed which explains the vaccination programme. If your child is at high risk from flu due to one or more medical conditions (see pages 8 & 9) and can't have the nasal flu vaccine, they should have the flu vaccine by injection. Children at high risk are offered the flu vaccine each year from their GP and you can choose if you would like your child to be vaccinated in school or at your GP surgery.

Please complete the enclosed consent form (one for each child) and return to your child's school by the end of September, to ensure your child receives their vaccination. 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: www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Please contact the school nurse team if you have any concerns -

- **Email:** flu.schoolnurses@oxford.health.nhs.uk - please include your child's name, date of birth and school
- **Phone** numbers overleaf, please contact the base nearest your child's school

Yours sincerely,
Margaret Fallon, Operational Manager, School Health Nursing

Local School Nurse Teams

Area	School Nurse Assistant	Phone Number
Abingdon	Lynn Charles	Tel : 01865 904890
Banbury	Jemma Jackson	Tel: 01865 904234
Bicester	Celine Darnand	Tel: 01869 324496
Carterton/Chipping Norton	Alison Whitfield	Tel: 01993 867149
Didcot	Kimberly Kilpin	Tel: 01235 515503
Oxford	Jo Absolom	Tel: 01865 904225
Wallingford (covering Sonning Common, Langtree and Henley)	Christine Sturdy	Tel: 01865 904845
Wantage/Faringdon	Lesley Tilbury	Tel: 01235 774548
Witney	Michelle Norgrove	Tel: 01993 866120