

**This letter contains important information  
about your child's flu vaccination. Please  
submit the Consent Form promptly.**



Autumn Term 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

**Your child's annual flu vaccination is due  
CHILTERN EDGE**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

The annual school aged Flu vaccination programme is, this year, being offered to all children in Year 7 – Year 11. Flu can be a very unpleasant illness for children and sometimes causes serious complications. Children can catch and spread flu easily so vaccinating them also protects others who are vulnerable e.g babies and older people. This is particularly important as COVID-19 is still circulating and people at risk of flu are also vulnerable to the complications of COVID-19.

**For most children, the vaccination is painless and given by a quick and simple spray up the nose.** In some circumstances it is necessary to administer the vaccine by intramuscular injection, but this is always discussed with parents/carers beforehand. You may also choose for the vaccination to be administered by intramuscular injection if you object to the nasal vaccination on the grounds of its contents (eg Porcine Gelatine) or if the vaccine is otherwise unsuitable. The intramuscular injection, if required, will also be delivered in school on the date above.

**How do I provide Consent for my child to receive the vaccine?**

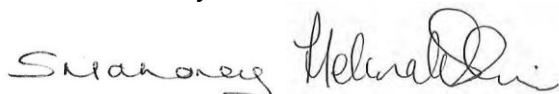
It is important that you first read the information in the Flu Leaflet [Child flu vaccine - NHS](#) which includes details about the programme and the small number of children who may not be able to have the nasal spray. Due to the checking process' required please follow the steps below at least one full school day before the session to ensure your child can be vaccinated at school. Community clinics will be available across the county if your child has not been vaccinated in the school session.

1. **Click** the link <https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu>
2. **Enter** the Unique School Code **OX146103**
3. **Complete** the form (one per child). Please complete even if you are REFUSING the vaccination\*.

Information regarding the Flu Vaccination and Asthma and what to do if you change your mind is available below. Further information is also available at [www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/](http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/) including information about all our vaccination programmes.

If you need to contact us, please email [immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk). If you require help to complete the Consent Form please call the Immunisation Team on 07920 254 400 and we will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely,



Susan Mahoney and Helena Uddin  
Immunisation County Team Leads

### **Further Information**

**Refusal of Vaccination-** If you do not wish your child to be vaccinated, and you would prefer not to be contacted again by our service this academic year regarding the Flu Vaccine, please complete a consent form selecting NO consent.

**Asthma or other illness** – We may not be able to safely vaccinate your child on the arranged date if your child is asthmatic and in the 3 days (72hrs) before the vaccination session your child has any of the following ...

- They have increased wheezing
- and/or
- have increased the use of their Bronchodilator
- and/or
- they are currently taking or have been prescribed steroid tablets to control their asthma in the two weeks prior to the vaccination session in school

If the above occurs It is **very important** that you provide a written note with your child's name, dob, year group and the updating information to be given to the vaccination team on the day of vaccination. If your child is too young to be able to do this, please hand the letter to the school reception and ask that it is given to the vaccination team as they arrive and **mark it as urgent**. Please **also call** the Immunisation Team on 07920 254 400 before 08:45 on the day of vaccination.

### **Withdrawing Consent/Vaccination given at GP Practice after Consent Form submitted –**

If you submit a Consent Form and then change your mind and no longer wish your child to be vaccinated

or

you submit a Consent Form and then your child has their vaccination at the GP Practice before the school session.

Please email [withdrawconsentSAIS@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:withdrawconsentSAIS@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk) at least one full school day before the session **and** on the day of the vaccination session provide a written note to your child's School Reception for the urgent attention of the Immunisation Team. Please state in the letter and in the email subject heading, your child's school, name, year group and date of birth.

**Older Children and Consent** – Some young people in secondary school, who understand fully what is involved in a proposed procedure, such as vaccination, can legally give consent. This is known as 'Gillick competence'. You can read the Green book of immunisation for more information on consent, including Gillick competence, via the following link –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consent-the-green-book-chapter-2>

**Translated Flu Leaflet-** The Flu leaflet is also available in the following languages [Albanian](#), [Arabic](#), [Bengali](#), [Bulgarian](#), [Chinese \(simplified\)](#), [Chinese \(traditional\)](#), [Cantonese](#), [Estonian](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Greek](#), [Gujarati](#), [Hindi](#), [Latvian](#), [Lithuanian](#), [Panjabi](#), [Pashto](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Romanian](#), [Romany](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tagalog](#), [Turkish](#), [Twi](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Urdu](#) and [Yiddish](#).

*\*By providing a valid email address you will receive an automatic email confirming that you have completed the Consent Form. You will receive a further email following the vaccination session confirming and providing information regarding the vaccination that has been given or providing a reason why we may not have vaccinated your child eg if unwell or absent. These emails will be from [school.immunisations@nhs.net](mailto:school.immunisations@nhs.net) and may go direct to your Junk folder.*