

**Dorset School Age Immunisations Team**

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Dear Parent/Guardian

**FLU VACCINATION OFFER TO CHILDREN IN RECEPTION TO YEAR 6**

We are pleased to confirm that this vaccination will be provided in schools this Autumn/Winter to help protect your child against Flu. This can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable friends and family by preventing the spread of flu.

We are due to visit your child's school to vaccinate on:

**School:** Sherborne Primary School  
**Date of Session:** Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019

We have changed the way we obtain consent from parents and carers for the flu immunisation programme. You will be able to enrol your child for this service and provide consent online instead of filling in a paper form. When registering a child for the service you will need to ensure the details provided match their NHS record. The simplest way to enrol is using your child's NHS number and their full name as held by their GP. If you do not know your child's NHS number you can use your Post Code instead. NB if you have moved recently but not yet told your GP please use the Post Code held by them.

For more information, please visit our website [www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/schoolageimms](http://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/schoolageimms)

- Please register your child **online** using this link: <https://links.inhealthcare.co.uk/dorset-child-flu-immms> as soon as you receive this letter.
- If you have more than one child you will receive a letter / e-mail for each child. Please note that the session code below may be different even if they attend the same school
- Please provide the requested information for your child and not for yourself.
- Once you have registered, you will receive an email with a link to the consent form within a few minutes.
- You will be asked to put in a session code for your school.
- **Your session code is ko4v6juz**
- You will be asked to confirm your contact information and provide any contact information for a second contact, if required.

- You will be asked a series of health questions for your child. There is space to add further information if your child has a health condition or additional needs.
- We will contact you if we require any further information. Please provide a daytime telephone number if possible.
- Please note that the last date to submit an online consent form for your child to be immunised at school is midnight on **10<sup>th</sup> October 2019**.
- If you miss this deadline you can still complete a form but will be offered an appointment for a catch-up clinic at a community venue. Please note this may be several weeks after the school session.
- If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, there is a box on the consent form for you to complete and please do tell us why. This will help us plan and improve the service for the future.

If you have any problems registering your child online please check our website: [www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/schoolageimms](http://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/schoolageimms) including the Frequently Asked Questions section or complete the Contact Us form available on the same page.

For any other queries including problems completing the consent form online you can either complete the contact us form on our website or e-mail us at [dhc.immsenquiries@nhs.net](mailto:dhc.immsenquiries@nhs.net)

If you are a foster carer or care for a Looked After Child (LAC/Child in Care) from Dorset or BCP Local Authority, please **do not complete this registration** as this will be done by the LAC Health Team nurses. The child's social worker will contact you regarding completion of the health questions. If you have a Looked After Child from another Local Authority please contact your child's Social Worker to discuss as soon as possible.

The vaccination is free and is a quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, it is recommended to have the flu vaccine again this year as the strains included vary from year to year.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme is (attached to this email / available here: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/806857/PE\\_Protecting\\_Child\\_Against\\_Flu\\_leaflet.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/806857/PE_Protecting_Child_Against_Flu_leaflet.pdf) and includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

Yours faithfully



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For further information see: [www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)