

Dorset School Age Immunisations Service

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Operating hours Mon-Fri 09:00 -17:00

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Dear Parent/Guardian

FLU VACCINATION OFFER TO CHILDREN

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also protect more vulnerable friends and family by preventing the spread of flu. With COVID-19 still in circulation it is really important to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter to help protect them, the NHS and social care.

We have been given the opportunity to use a large venue site at Sentinel House, Poole, and would like to invite pupils to attend this session. If you are unable to attend this session then there will be alternative catch-up sessions on offer in January 2022.

Please use the link below to book into this clinic:

dhc.FLUclinic@nhs.net

If you are a foster carer with delegated authority you can sign the paper consent at the session. If you do not have this authority the social worker will need to provide evidence of consent via an email to the address above. 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.

While COVID-19 is in circulation, the healthcare team will follow guidelines to ensure children are safe when being offered the vaccine. The nursing team will be wearing uniforms and personal protective equipment (PPE) for the immunisation session as per the guidelines from Public Health England. We have a social story for children with pictures of nurses in PPE, and we are able to share these with your child's school. Further information is available available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccination-leaflets-and-posters/protect-yourself-against-flu-information-for-those-in-school-years-7-to-11>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccination-leaflets-and-posters/protect-yourself-against-flu-information-for-parents-and-carers-of-preschool-and-primary-school-aged-children>

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



Angela Cosser
Immunisation Clinical Lead
Dorset School Age Immunisation Service

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