

**Dorset School Age Immunisations Service**

Acorn Building  
St Leonards Hospital  
Ringwood Road  
Dorset  
BH24 2DW  
Tel: 01425 891162  
e-mail: [dhc.immsenquiries@nhs.net](mailto:dhc.immsenquiries@nhs.net)  
[dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk](http://dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk)  
Operating hours Mon-Fri 09:00 -17:00

12 January 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

**FLU VACCINATION OFFER TO CHILDREN**

We are pleased to confirm that the flu vaccination will be offered in schools and community venues this Autumn/Winter to help protect your child. 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 email address below to book into this clinic:

[dhc.FLUclinic@nhs.net](mailto:dhc.FLUclinic@nhs.net)

Please include in the email your child's name, date of birth, which school they attend and a contact phone number, and the booking team will contact you to make an appointment.

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](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)