



**Coventry and  
Warwickshire Partnership**  
NHS Trust

South Warwickshire Immunisation Team  
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Dear Parent / Guardian

**Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due for years Reception, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5**

**The vaccination against flu is annual, which means that even if your child received the vaccine last year they will need to have it again this year.**

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu 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. The vaccination is free and is a quick and simple spray up the nose.

**PLEASE FULLY COMPLETE AND SIGN, THE ENCLOSED CONSENT FORM** answering all the medical information questions (one form for each child) and return to the school **within 7 days** to ensure your child receives their vaccination.

If you decide you **do not** want your child vaccinated against flu, please indicate this on the consent form, giving the reason, and return it to school. This will help us plan and improve the service.

Consent must be given by someone who has Parental Responsibility (PR) for the child. PR is not automatically granted for the care of a child e.g. a step parent. PR is held by the birth mother, a father who is named on the birth certificate or mothers and/or fathers who have jointly adopted a child. If you are a legal guardian or a Foster Carer for a child, you should have either a Special Guardianship Order (SGO) or Local Authority will hold a full (FCO) or interim care order (ICO).

**If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased after you return the consent form, please contact the Immunisation Team on the number above.**

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Jagtar Singh - Chair  
Simon Gilby - Chief Executive

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in partnership with:



A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme is enclosed and includes more details about the vaccine.

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

Other links you will find helpful are:

The patient information leaflet: [www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/29109](http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/29109)

**Flu video and electronic versions of paperwork:** We have produced a video introducing the Immunisation team and explaining more about the nasal flu vaccination which you may wish to watch with your child before the session. Should you wish to view this video with your child, visit: [www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk](http://www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk) and search: Our Services/Immunisation Service.

### Porcine gelatine

The nasal spray vaccine contains a tiny amount of gelatine of pork origin used during the manufacturing process. Gelatine is commonly used in the manufacture of lots of other medicines and the trace in the flu nasal spray in the final product is a completely changed substance. If you have concerns about this please call us for more information or see details below.

In 2001, the World Health Organisation (WHO) offered guidance on this subject following a meeting of over 100 Muslim scholars in Kuwait. The scholars agreed that the advice to Muslim families is that gelatine of pork origin used in vaccines and other medicines is judicially permissible. Use of this substance in the flu nasal spray vaccine has also been approved by representatives of the Jewish community.

For further information about porcine gelatine and the nasal flu vaccine, visit:

[www.gov.uk/government/news/vaccines-and-gelatine-phe-response](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/vaccines-and-gelatine-phe-response)

### Sharing Personal Information (Our responsibilities to you and your child under the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018)

We will keep your child's information confidential and only use it to support them getting the best health care they can.

With your consent, or someone with Parental Responsibility, your child's vaccination details will be shared with their GP and the Child Health Information System (CHIS). This is an electronic active clinical care record for all children. Your child's previous vaccinations will have been recorded here.

All information we receive will be treated confidentially, it will be stored in line with GDPR and data protection regulations and only be used for the purpose of which it is intended.

If you have any queries please contact the immunisation team using the contact details overleaf.

Yours faithfully

Immunisation and Vaccination Team

Sent on behalf of Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust

### Measles

In 2017/18 the West Midlands has seen an increase across all age groups in this **highly infectious viral illness that can be very unpleasant and sometimes lead to serious complications**. Please note, all children/young people up to 18 years of age should have received 2 doses of the MMR vaccination (normally given by 5 years of age). It is important for you to contact your GP if they have not received these 2 doses as they can still receive the vaccination. (The immunisation team are unfortunately unable to offer the MMR vaccination).