

VACCINATION UK

Flu Vaccination

Your questions answered...

🦠 What is flu?
Flu is more than just a bad cold. It is a highly infectious virus that can spread quickly in schools and families. Children often recover well, but flu can sometimes lead to serious illness, particularly in babies, older people and those with long-term health conditions.

Why is my child being offered the vaccine?
The vaccine helps to:
✔️ Protect your child from flu
✔️ Reduce serious illness and hospital admission
✔️ Reduce the spread of flu to family and friends
✔️ Help keep children in school and parents at work

What vaccine will my child receive?
Most children are offered the 👃 nasal spray vaccine, which is:
- quick
- painless
- needle free
- highly effective

Some children may be offered a **gelatine-free** 💉 **injectable vaccine** if the nasal spray is not suitable or if parents choose this option where available under the programme.

Is the vaccine safe?
Yes. Millions of children have safely received the NHS flu vaccine.

Can the vaccine give my child flu?
No. The flu vaccine **cannot cause flu.**
Some children may develop mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore arm or mild temperature while their immune system builds protection.

My child has asthma or an egg allergy.
Most children with asthma or egg allergy can still receive a flu vaccine.
Please tell the vaccination team about any medical conditions when completing your consent form.

My child has a cold.
A mild cold without a temperature is not usually a reason to delay vaccination.
If your child is unwell with a fever, the vaccination may be postponed.

Does the nasal spray contain pork gelatine?
The nasal spray contains a highly purified form of porcine gelatine, which is used to keep the vaccine stable.
A gelatine-free injectable flu vaccine is available. Please indicate this on the consent form or contact the immunisation team. ✉️

Why is the vaccine needed every year?
Flu viruses change every year. The vaccine is updated annually to provide the best protection against the strains expected each winter. ❤️

For more information about vaccines and our contact details please visit **www.schoolvaccination.uk** or scan the QR code

Part of the NHS School Aged Immunisation Service

NHS