

Dear Parent/ Carers,

### **Childhood vaccinations / Winter Readiness**

When your child begins school, it is very important that they are up to date with their vaccinations to protect themselves from several fatal diseases, sometimes with long term complications. For the upcoming winter season, it is particularly important to protect our children and the wider community from the Flu as COVID-19 is still circulating.

#### **The Flu vaccine is offered free to:**

- children aged 2 or 3 years old (on 31 August of current Flu season)
- all primary school-aged children
- all year 7 to year 11 secondary school-aged young people
- children with a health condition that puts them at greater risk from Flu

Children aged 2 and 3 years old will be given the vaccination at their general practice usually by the practice nurse. All school-aged children will be offered the vaccination in school.

#### **Childhood Immunisation schedule:**

Childhood Immunisation schedule	
Age	Vaccine
8 weeks	6-in-1 vaccine (1 <sup>st</sup> dose) Rotavirus vaccine (1 <sup>st</sup> dose) MenB (1 <sup>st</sup> dose)
12 weeks	6-in-1 vaccine (2 <sup>nd</sup> dose) Pneumococcal (PCV) vaccine Rotavirus vaccine (2 <sup>nd</sup> dose)
16 weeks	6-in-1 vaccine (3 <sup>rd</sup> dose) MenB (2 <sup>nd</sup> dose)
1 year	Hib/MenC (1 <sup>st</sup> dose) Pneumococcal (PCV) vaccine (2 <sup>nd</sup> dose) MMR (1 <sup>st</sup> dose) MenB (3 <sup>rd</sup> dose)
2 years to 15 years	Flu vaccine (each year from September)
3 years to 4 months	MMR (2 <sup>nd</sup> dose) 4-in-1 pre-school booster
12 to 13 years	HPV vaccine (for boys and girls)
14 years	3-in-1 teenage booster MenACWY

If your child missed any of their immunisations as a baby or toddler, this is a good time to ask your GP practice or clinic about catch-up doses.

NHS guides as to why flu vaccinations are important:

- [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/999276/PHE\\_protecting\\_your\\_child\\_against\\_flu\\_leaflet\\_information\\_for\\_parents.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999276/PHE_protecting_your_child_against_flu_leaflet_information_for_parents.pdf)
- [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1005123/PHE\\_12053\\_flu\\_vaccination\\_2021\\_2022\\_leaflet.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005123/PHE_12053_flu_vaccination_2021_2022_leaflet.pdf)

You can also check the child's personal health record (Red Book). For a checklist of the vaccines and the ages at which they should ideally be given visit [www.nhs.uk/vaccinations](http://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations)

It is never too late to have your child immunised. Your child can catch up on any immunisations that were missed, just speak to your GP. All London general practices have adapted their delivery of vaccinations to ensure that they are safely vaccinating children in COVID-19 secure venues with infection control measures in place.

Please note: The arrangements for flu vaccination are separate from the Covid-19 vaccine for 12-15 year olds. Communication for the Covid-19 vaccine and subsequent pop up clinics are being sent separately to the advice regarding the flu vaccine

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carole Furlong', written in a cursive style.

Carole Furlong  
Director of Public Health

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- [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/999276/PHE\\_protecting\\_your\\_child\\_against\\_flu\\_leaflet\\_information\\_for\\_parents.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999276/PHE_protecting_your_child_against_flu_leaflet_information_for_parents.pdf)
- [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1005123/PHE\\_12053\\_flu\\_vaccination\\_2021\\_2022\\_leaflet.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005123/PHE_12053_flu_vaccination_2021_2022_leaflet.pdf)

# flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



## 1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

## 2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

## 3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

## 4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

## 5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

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

Flu **i**mmunisation  
Helping to protect children, every winter

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