

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would firstly like to wish you a happy new year and I hope that you managed to get some of a break over the Winter break.

As we are well aware COVID 19 is not looking like it is going anywhere soon and the impact of having flu alongside COVID is very worrying for both your child and your families. Although the schools are closed, we have community clinics in your local areas to be able to continue vaccinating and protecting your children against flu.

We are in the process of actively calling every parent whose child has a consent form with us (electronic or paper) and who did not have a vaccination on the schools date either due to absence or refusal, and booking in to our community clinics. If you do not receive a call by the end of next week or wish to get your child booked in sooner please call us to book into a clinic appointment.

If you did not return your consent form (paper or electronic) and would like to book into a community clinic, please contact the team on **0300 790 0594** to book an appointment.

There are two vaccinations on offer this year:

FLU NASAL SPRAY

This vaccination is the Gold standard of the flu vaccines as it gives the best coverage. It is a simple spray of the vaccination up each nostril. Please note this vaccine **does contain pork gelatine**, and therefore may not be suitable for some of you.

FLU INJECTION

As of late last year, the flu injection became available for all children. This vaccine is good but is more of the silver standard; it provides good coverage. It is administered via a needle in the upper arm. This vaccine **does not contain pork gelatine**, so is the best alternative for any child who cannot have the nasal spray.

Please advise the person whom you are speaking with to book an appointment which choice you are making to have.

Kindest Regards

Becky Twist

Clinical Delivery Manager