

0-19 Public Health Nursing Service Crookall House Demesne Road Douglas Isle of Man IM1 3QA

Email Address: FluVaccinationEnquiries.DHSC@gov.im

Dear Parent/Guardian

Seasonal childhood flu immunisation programme 2023/2024

This year, the School Vaccination Team is pleased to offer the seasonal childhood nasal flu vaccine to children in school years Reception to Year 11, and will be visiting schools in October and November.

The vaccine 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 other vulnerable family members and friends, by preventing the spread of the flu virus. With Covid-19 still being in circulation, it is more important than ever to reduce the numbers of those becoming ill this winter.

The vaccine is given as a 0.1mls of liquid into each nostril, so there are no needles and it is a safe method of delivery for most children.

The link to an electronic consent form is attached below for you to complete and submit. You only need to complete the form if you want your child to receive the vaccine. Alternatively, there are hard copies of the consent form available at your child's school reception. We would ask that you complete the consent form no later than **Friday 22 September.**

https://www.gov.im//flu-immunisation-consent-form

On the consent form, you will be asked a series questions about your child's health, to assess their eligibility for the nasal flu vaccine. If you answer yes to any of these questions, a member of the team will contact you to discuss further.

If you need to contact the School Vaccination Team prior to your child's vaccination, please send an email to: <u>FluVaccinationEnquiries.DHSC@gov.im</u>.

Information about the vaccine programme can be found on <u>www.gov.im/childhoodflu</u>, where you will also find a link to the online consent form.

Yours sincerely

Julie Price Service Lead