

Your child's flu vaccination is now due

Dear Parent/ Guardian

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

Please complete your child's electronic consent form using the link sent to your email address or via text message to your mobile phone. Alternatively, you can contact the service using the telephone number provided below. If you have a paper consent form, please complete it and return it to the school within three days of receiving it.

If you do not wish your child to be vaccinated, please complete the consent form to decline. This will prevent further follow-up contact during this academic year.

Most children are offered a nasal spray vaccine which is a quick and painless spray up the nose. Please answer the questions on the consent form as a small number of children cannot have the nasal spray because of medical conditions or treatments. They can be offered protection through a vaccine injection instead.

The nasal spray vaccine is the preferred vaccine. It contains a very small amount of gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine) as an essential ingredient to keep it stable and able to work. For those who may not accept medicines or vaccines that contain porcine gelatine, a flu vaccine injection is available.

Even if your child had the vaccine last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended to have it again this year or they won't be protected.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

It's important if after completing your child's form you attend the GP, Pharmacist or wish to amend their form you must contact the immunisation team directly and not your child's school.

For further information: www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Please call or email your local team to arrange an appointment

Liverpool Schools	0151 295 3833	mcn-tr.vacandimms.team@nhs.net
Sefton Schools	0151 247 6130	mcn-tr.seftonimmunisationteam@nhs.net
Knowsley, Halton &	0151 351	mcn-tr.schoolimmunisations@nhs.net

St Helens Schools	8805	
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If your child becomes wheezy, has a bad attack of asthma, or has started oral steroids for their asthma after you have completed their form, please contact the relevant school immunisation team on above number.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions or need support, please do not hesitate to contact your local immunisation team.

We aim to be as transparent as possible and provide people with information about what is done with their data. For further information, please see Mersey Care's privacy policy: www.merseycare.nhs.uk/privacy

Yours sincerely,
Sefton Immunisation Team

Mersey Care uses a 'Count Me In' system to make sure that everyone is informed about research activities which are relevant to them. To find out more, or to opt out of receiving information about research, please visit: <https://www.merseycare.nhs.uk/count-me-in>

For complaints, compliments or to access advice and support, the following services will be happy to help you: Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) 0800 328 2941, Healthwatch Independent Advocacy 0808 801 0389.