

Flu Vaccines



NHS

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 family and friends

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

What should I do?

Contact your child's GP if your child was aged two or three years old (on the 31 August of the current flu season) and you haven't heard from them by early November.

If your child is at primary school or in year 7 of secondary school, the school will send you a leaflet and consent form. Please sign the form and return it.

If your child has a health condition that puts them at greater risk from flu, or lives with someone on the NHS Shielded Patient List, they can get the flu vaccine from their GP.

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu

**HELP US
HELP YOU**
PROTECT AGAINST FLU

Flu Immunisation
Helping to protect children, every winter

Parents urged to have their children vaccinated against flu

Parents in Oxfordshire are being urged to have their young children vaccinated against the flu this winter.

Children aged two and three can have a free, quick and painless NHS nasal spray vaccine at their GP surgery.

In addition, children in primary school and those in year 7 can have the nasal spray vaccine via the school nurse service.

Dr Ed Capo-Bianco, Urgent Care lead at Oxfordshire CCG, said; “Flu can be serious for young children, so help protect them from the illness with one simple nasal spray. It is free, fast and painless. Children are also super-spreaders of the flu; by vaccinating them we can reduce the risk of transmission to frail older people and those in ‘at risk’ groups.” Emma Leaver, Oxford Health Service Director, said: “Protection against flu is one of the best things you can do this winter to help keep your child healthy and I would urge parents of young children to take up the free offer. It’s a pain-free nasal spray that is administered easily to young children, so no injections.

“Oxford Health is playing a leading role in protecting older children and, at the moment, we are carrying out 68,000 flu immunisations in schools over a 10 week period. Be sure to fill in the online consent forms so your children can receive the immunisation they need.”

“I also urge parents or carers to give consent for their child to have the nasal spray flu vaccine if they are attending primary school.”

This year, the NHS is aiming to vaccinate around 4.5 million people in the South East – up from 2.6 million last winter – to help prevent the spread of flu. For the first time, children in school Year 7, and household contacts and carers of those on the NHS Shielded Patient List, are all eligible for the free vaccination. The full list of those who are eligible for a free flu vaccine on the NHS is below:

- People aged 65 years and over
- Patients aged from six months to 65 years in clinical ‘at risk’ groups (see below)
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2 and 3
- Children in primary school and Year 7
- People in long-stay residential care homes
- Social care and hospice workers who provide direct patient contact
- Health and social care staff working in residential/nursing homes
- Patients on the NHS shielded patient list
- Household contacts of carers and those on the NHS shielded patient list

[More information on the flu vaccination.](#)