



September 2019
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School Health Service Immunisation Team
Downham Health Centre
7-9 Moorside Road
BROMLEY
BR1 5EP

To parents of Children in Eliot Bank Primary School

Dear Parent or Guardian

Flu vaccination for all children in Primary School

From October 2019 all children in primary school will be offered flu vaccination through a nasal spray. This extension of the national flu immunisation programme to children is based on the advice of independent experts.

Your child will be offered a flu vaccine that is given as a simple spray up the nose. It is painless, very quick, and serious side effects are uncommon. This vaccination programme is designed to protect your child against flu which can be an unpleasant illness and, although rarely, sometimes cause serious complications. By having the flu vaccination, children are also less likely to pass the virus on to friends and family. This will help to protect those who are at greater risk from flu including infants, older people and those with an underlying health condition. The flu vaccine provides protection against the strains that are predicted to circulate in the coming season. These strains may change from year to year which is why we recommend vaccination every year. A leaflet explaining the programme is enclosed and includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

Parents/carers are not required to be present in school during their child's immunisation.

We believe your child should be vaccinated and we are now inviting parents/guardians to register your consent for the above vaccinations. We have developed a secure on-line link that parents/guardians can use to register consent for the vaccination. The process is quick and easy to use.

Please click on this link to access the eConsent:

<https://app.schoolscreener.com/Screener.Web/Lewisham/portal#/imms/27114211000001105/100711>

Please see the information below about consent - this is very important

1. It is vital that the consent form is completed as soon as possible.
2. The consent form allows you to refuse this vaccine for your child. However, if you are thinking about taking this step, please talk to your GP or ask to speak to your child's school nurse first. It is very important that you take this opportunity to protect your child against this very serious disease.

You should inform the nurses on the day of the vaccine if your child has been wheezy or there is any change in their asthma medication.

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Please contact the Lewisham School Health Immunisation Team at the Downham Health and Leisure Centre on 0203 049 1897 if you require any further assistance.

We look forward to receiving your child's e-forms. Please remember to return the consent e-form even if you DO NOT consent to the vaccination for your child, explaining the reason for your decision. This will help us in the development of the flu vaccination programme in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Zipora Govore
Community Matron CYP School/Public Health
Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust

