



**Hounslow and Richmond
Community Healthcare**
NHS Trust

Lambeth & Southwark School Age
Immunisation Team
Bermondsey Health Centre
108 Grange Rd,
London
SE1 3BW

September 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Flu vaccination for children in reception, years 1, 2, 3 and 4

From October 2017 all children in reception, years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be offered flu vaccination through a nasal spray. This extension of the national flu immunisation programme to children is part of a phased introduction, 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.

If you require further information - A leaflet explaining the programme can be collected via the school, or by visiting www.nhs.uk/vaccinations

Please complete the enclosed consent form (one for each child, please) and return it to the school asap, so your child can be given the vaccine. Please note if the consent form is returned after school vaccination your child may not be able to have the vaccine.

If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medications increased just before or on the day of the vaccination session, please inform the school, so they can inform the immunisation team.

Tel: 0203 049 7188 email: HRCH.ImmunisationTeamMailboxSouthwark@nhs.net or
HRCH.ImmunisationTeamMailboxLambeth@nhs.net

Yours sincerely

Christiana Ogunleye
Immunisations Team Lead Lambeth & Southwark

***Please remember to return the consent form even if you DO NOT consent to the vaccination for your child, explaining the reason for your decision.**

This will help to develop the flu vaccination programme in the future.