



Ilford County High School

JK/JB

27th September 2021

Dear Years 7 to 11 Parents/Carers,

Re: Flu vaccination programme 2021 to 2022

I am writing to you to inform you that the flu vaccination programme has been extended to students in years 7 to 11. Please see the detail below:

“For the 2021 to 2022 flu season, the flu vaccination programme that already includes all children in primary school will be expanded to additional children in secondary school so that those in years 7 to 11 will now be offered flu vaccination. This significant expansion in the programme is part of the government’s wider winter planning to reduce flu levels in the population, and therefore the potential impact on the NHS, when we are likely to see both flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) in circulation.

In 2012 the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), the independent expert advisory group that advises the government on their vaccination programme, recommended vaccinating children against flu as it provides individual protection to the children who receive the vaccine and reduces transmission of flu in the wider population.

Flu vaccination has been offered to children since 2013 in a phased rollout starting with the youngest children first. Last year, the flu vaccination programme was extended into year 7 in secondary school for the first time as part of the government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the uncertainties around the impact of COVID-19 this winter, the programme is being extended, to include all secondary school-aged children up to year 11. No decision has yet been made about whether the expanded programme will continue in future years covering all children to year 11 or whether the programme will return to a phased rollout approach.”

Guidance – Flu vaccination programme 2021 to 2022: briefing for schools (Updated 29 July 2021)

The dates of the vaccination are as follows:

- **Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd December 2021**

Empowering to Excel By Learning Together

Headteacher: Mrs R Drysdale BSc NPQH

Fremantle Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 2JB



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On Thursday 30th September 2021 all the students in each house will receive an information pack and parental permission slip that needs to be fully completed and returned **signed by the parent**. This will need to be returned to your son's form tutor by Wednesday 17th November 2021. Your son will not be immunised if parental permission is not given. When you receive the pack please read the booklet carefully as this provides all the relevant information that you need to know.

Please note:

- Even if parents do not wish their child to receive the flu immunisation, they should still send the consent form back with the child's name and the refusal section completed;
- This year, Vaccination UK will be offering the Flu Injection for children that cannot receive the nasal spray due to the porcine gelatine content. Please be aware that this is not a nasal spray but an injection in the arm. If parents wish for their child to receive the injection instead of the nasal spray, please request a separate consent form for this to the school office.

Ilford County High School facilitates the process, but its staff cannot answer direct questions about the immunisations. If you have any further questions that are not answered in the booklet provided, please contact Vaccination UK about the specific nature of the process itself. The vaccination process will be carried out with CoVid Guidelines in place.

Vaccination UK

Telephone: 0203 432 1537

Email: redbridge@v-uk.co.uk

If you still have concerns, then speak to your GP.

Please return the appropriate documentation that your son will be given and return to the School office by the deadline set.

Kind regards,

Mr Kelly
Assistant Headteacher

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