Somerset
NHS Foundation Trust

Somerset SAINT
(School Aged Children Immunisation Nursing Team)
Upper Building Bracken House
Chard
Somerset
TA20 1YA
Tel: 0300 3230032
Email: Somersetsaint@somersetft.nhs.uk

Dear Parent/Guardian

FLU VACCINATION FOR ALL SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN
From Reception up to and including Year 11
(Please note that in special educational needs schools, the vaccination will be offered to children up to and including 17 years old).

Decision for link: https://www.somersetsaint.co.uk//Forms/Flu?schoolcode=SM123862

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Having the flu vaccine protects your child and your family and friends, by preventing the spread of flu. It is recommended to have the vaccine every year as the type of flu can vary each winter. The vaccination is a quick and painless spray up the nose.

This vaccination is part of the NHS routine immunisation programme for which your child is now due.

Please submit either a YES consent or DECLINE (one for each child) using the above link, **this link will close at midday on the working day before the team is due to visit so please complete this as soon as possible as the team will be unable to take any consents after this point**. If a decision form is not completed this may mean that one of our team calls you to obtain verbal consent over the phone.

If we are unable to vaccinate your child for any reason at school, you will receive an email offering to attend one of our community walk in flu clinics.

Please complete the decision form even if you do not consent to the vaccination.

Yours sincerely

Somerset SAINT

Please note:

- If your child becomes wheezy, has a bad attack of asthma, or has started oral steroids for their asthma after you submit the consent form, please contact us on 0300 323 0032.
- The nasal flu vaccine contains pork gelatine. An alternative **injectable** vaccine is available for those who may not accept the use of pork gelatine in medical products. The consent form has an option to select the injectable flu vaccine instead of the nasal spray.
- If your child is in an at-risk health group, they may also receive an invite letter from the GP. If your child is vaccinated by the GP, please inform us as soon as possible.
- The online form expires at the end of each academic year so you will be invited to consent or decline for the yearly vaccination again next year.
- The decision form can only be completed by someone with parental responsibility, if you have any queries about whether you hold parental responsibility and are therefore able to complete the consent form, please contact the immunisation team on the above number.
- For further information see: www.nhs.uk/child-flu
- Did you know that the flu vaccine is also offered to all children aged 2 and 3 years old (on 31 August 2026).
  This can be accessed via your GP surgery or through one of our walk-in clinics. You can find our nearest clinic by using this link https://www.somersetft.nhs.uk/saints-school-age-immunisation-team/somerset-school-aged-immunisation-nursing-team-saint/flu-vaccination-programme/