January 11th 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

A Message from the Berkshire School Immunisation Team:

The main flu season occurs in the first 3 months of the year, so now more than ever, it is important that children are protected from flu. Vaccinating your child not only protects them, but also protects the wider population as children are known to be the main spreader of the flu virus. Most children will receive the nasal flu vaccination, but for some children, this can be given as a small injection in the arm.

As you can appreciate during the Covid pandemic, it is now even more important to have your child vaccinated, to maintain the health of the population, reduce the pressure on the NHS system and reduce hospital admissions. We are pleased to be able to continue our school-aged immunisation service, even if your child is not attending school during the current lockdown. We are working closely with our colleagues in education to provide clinics in schools where possible, otherwise the service will be provided in alternative local venues. Details will be published on our webpage (link below).

We are pleased to be able to offer various locations in the Windsor & Maidenhead, Slough and Bracknell areas. Our service offers the nasal flu or injectable flu vaccination (for those children who are unable to have the nasal flu vaccination due to the porcine gelatin).

What to do now?

If your child missed their flu vaccination and you would like to arrange for your child to be vaccinated, please contact us on **0300 365 0077** option 1 to arrange an appointment. Alternatively you can contact us via email SchoolImmunisationTeam@berkshire.nhs.uk

Please check our Immunisation Website for up to date information about School Aged Immunisations and clinics which will be taking place from now until the 5th February 2021.

https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/our-services/public-health-nursing-health-visiting-school-nursing-immunisation/immunisation-team/

Best wishes,

Andrew Griffin
Executive Headteacher