

September 2023

To the parents of children attending **Villiers High School**,

Dear Parent or Guardian

2023-24 Childhood Flu vaccination programme

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.

We believe your child should be vaccinated and we are now inviting parents/guardians to register your consent for the above vaccination. The School Health Service are now using an electronic method of communication which is a faster, more efficient and a safer way to deliver your child's health information. We have developed a secure online link that parents/guardians can use to register consent for the vaccination. The process is quick and easy to use.

STEP 1: Please either register for an account if this is your first time using the Thomson parent portal or login if you have already created an account.

If this is your first time registering you will receive an email to confirm your account and set a password.

STEP 2: Once you login you can read the information on the Childhood Flu vaccination programme and indicate your consent.

Please click on the below link to access the eConsent

<https://app.schoolscreener.com/Portal/#/CNWLLon/pr/CNWLi2324flu/101928>

NOTE: To access the Thomson parent portal on your iPhone, please make sure you download the letter first onto your device, then follow the URL link provided. If accessing via laptop or desktop, please don't use Internet Explorer, instead use other internet browser such as Chrome.

If you encounter any problems with the Parent Portal, contact Thomson help desk on the following number: 02039584181 or email parentsupport@schoolscreener.com

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. **Do ensure that you have your child's NHS number** when completing the online form.
- 2.** The consent form allows you to refuse this vaccine for your child. If you are thinking about this step, please talk to you 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.

For more information about the eConsent Parent Portal, watch this 2-minute video:
<https://youtu.be/OUT-pAYOwF0>

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.

Contact the Immunisation team 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 for 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,

We're here for you

School Aged Immunisation Team,
The Warren Health Centre, Hayes, Middlesex, UB4 0SF
Tel No: 01895 485740