East of England
Community and School-Aged Immunisation Service

Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust
Howard Court
14 Tewin Road
Welwyn Garden City
AL7 1BW
Tel: 0300 555 5055 option 7
September 2026

Autumn 2026 Flu Vaccination Programme

Dear Parent/Carer

In line with NHS England and UK Health Security Agency requirements, the seasonal flu vaccination programme will be offered to all children **in Nursery to year 11**, and in **SEND schools for year groups reception to year 13.**

It is expected that this year flu will be circulating alongside other respiratory viruses and COVID-19. It is therefore important to protect those at risk, prevent ill-health and minimise further impact on the NHS and social care.

The flu programme will be delivered in nurseries and schools during the autumn term of 2026. The vaccination is free and is available in two forms.





A Nasal Spray which is given as a quick painless spray up the nose. This vaccine is the **most effective** version of the flu vaccination. The nasal spray uses **porcine (pork) gelatine** during the manufacturing process. **Once produced no porcine DNA is detected**.

The alternative vaccination is the **Injectable Flu vaccine**. This vaccine offers **good protection** but it is not as effective as the nasal spray. If you would prefer your child to have the **porcine free (pork free)** flu vaccination, you can select this vaccine on the consent form.

You must complete the Paper form to accept or decline this vaccination.

The Consents will close at 12pm on Monday 23rd November.

Please contact the team on 0300 5555 055 option 7 if you have difficulty completing the consent form

For further information about child NHS Flu vaccines, click here.
Further information about NHS vaccinations, click here.
You can also find a range of information resources about the vaccine on GOV.UK

Please do not hesitate to contact the Immunisation Team on the above number if you have any questions about the flu immunisation.

Yours sincerely,

Community and School Aged Immunisation Service