Supporting children and families - what you need to know about the children's flu vaccine

Flu is more than just a bad cold. It can cause fever, tiredness, headaches, aches and pains, and can sometimes lead to serious illness. Vaccination helps protect children and those around them. To find out more and check eligibility, visit the NHS website.

How can children get the free flu vaccine?

Children in Reception to Year 11

Children attending school should be offered a free flu vaccination through the school immunisation programme.

- Look out for information from your child's school.
- Complete and return the consent form as soon as possible.
- Speak to the school or vaccination provider if you have questions.

If a child misses their school vaccination

- Contact Vaccination UK to book an appointment at a catch-up clinic. Email Walsall@vaccinationuk.co.uk or call 01922 902035

Children aged 2 and 3 years

Children aged 2 and 3 are also eligible for a free flu vaccine.

- Contact your GP practice or participating pharmacy to book an appointment.

Children with eligible long-term health conditions

- Children aged six months and over with certain long-term health conditions are eligible for a free flu vaccine. Contact your GP practice.

Children aged 4 years who are not yet in school

- Are eligible for a free flu vaccination. Contact your GP for advice.

The facts

✅ **The flu vaccine cannot give a child flu.**
✅ **The nasal spray vaccine is quick and painless for most children.**
✅ **A porcine-free injectable alternative is available where appropriate.**
✅ **Children are invited every year because flu viruses change each season.**

Walsall Council