**Children & Young People: Flu Eligibility Guidance for 2024/25**

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# **Key Messages for all Staff**

Please could the following messages be shared with all staff (in a team meeting if possible) to ensure that the correct information is available to and being shared by all.

# **Children and young people who are eligible for, and can be offered a flu vaccine in a GP setting**

## All 2- and 3-year-olds

All children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2024 are eligible for a flu vaccine from 1st September 2024. In order to provide early protection and reduce transmission to the wider population, GP practices should prioritise vaccination of 2- and 3-year-olds with LAIV over vaccination of adult cohorts; and commence as early as possible after the flu vaccine becomes available.

GP practices should ensure they have ordered sufficient vaccine to vaccinate 2- and 3-year-olds with the aim of meeting or exceeding the levels of uptake achieved in 2023/24 – especially in this cohort where uptake has traditionally been lower. Vaccine can be ordered through Immform. Providers are expected to deliver a 100% offer to eligible groups.

Age 6 months to 18 years and in an at-risk category

Please invite all at risk children to be vaccinated as soon as possible. School-aged children in a clinical risk group can receive their vaccination at school **OR** at their registered GP practice. However, general practices should continue to invite eligible school aged children in clinical risk groups for flu vaccination to ensure that they can access a vaccine before flu starts to circulate, where school sessions may be scheduled for later in the season or have been missed.

GP practices should ensure they have ordered sufficient vaccine to vaccinate at risk children with the aim of meeting or exceeding the levels of uptake achieved in 2023/24 – especially in this cohort where uptake has traditionally been lower. Vaccine can be ordered through Immform. Providers are expected to deliver a 100% offer to eligible groups.

## Any child or young person (up to age 18) who is registered as a carer

Please invite all young carers to be vaccinated. Anyone who is in receipt of a carers allowance, a part time carer or the main carer of an older or disabled person, or a young carer, is also eligible for a flu vaccine from their registered GP.  For example, a young carer looking after a disabled or vulnerable sibling or parent.

If the carer falls ill the welfare of the person/s they look after may be at risk. It is important carers are protected, so they can continue to give care to those they support and stay healthy throughout flu season.

# **Children and young people should NOT be offered a flu vaccine in a GP setting**

School Aged Children (excluding clinically at-risk)

If school aged children miss a vaccination in school due to absence, are home educated or decline the nasal flu vaccine due to the porcine gelatine content, they will be vaccinated later at a ‘catch-up community session or clinic’ organised by their local School Aged Immunisation (SAI) team.

Parents of children will be contacted by the School Aged Immunisation (SAI) Team with details of the catch-up clinic they should attend.  Should a parent contact a surgery requesting a vaccination, and their child **is NOT in an at-risk group**, please signpost them to the relevant provider.

These catch-up sessions / clinics are held throughout the flu season including during half terms and possibly during the Christmas holidays until their stock is exhausted (or expired), however the majority of vaccinations should be delivered by the SAI providers by the 13th December.

Please find contact details for the South West School Aged Immunisation Providers on the following page:

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| **​Locality** | **​Provider**  | **​Address**  | **​Contact number**  | **​Contact email / website**  |
| **Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire**  | Sirona Care and Health | Kingswood Civic CentreHigh Street, KingswoodBristol, BS15 9TR | 0300 124 5515 | ​Email: sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net  ​Website: [School Age Flu Vaccination – Children and Young People’s Services (sirona-cic.org.uk)](https://sirona-cic.org.uk/children-services/resources/school-age-flu-vaccination/) |
| **​Bath & North East Somerset, Swindon & Wiltshire**  | ​HCRG Care Group  | ​HCRG Care Group Services Ltd,  ​1st Floor, Technology House, Unit 10, High Post Business Park, ​SP4 6AT  | ​0300 247 0082 | ​Email: Vcl.immunisations@nhs.net   ​Website: [Annual Flu Vaccination - Wiltshire Children’s Community Health Services (wiltshirechildrensservices.co.uk)](https://wiltshirechildrensservices.co.uk/immunisation-service-annual-flu-vaccination/) |
| **​Cornwall**  | ​Kernow Health CIC   | ​1st Floor Cudmore House  ​Oak Lane  ​Truro  ​TR1 3LP   | ​01872 221105 | ​Email: kernowhealthcic.schoolimmunisation@nhs.net​Website: [School Age Immunisation – Kernow Health | Keeping General Practice at the heart of patient care - Kernow Health | Keeping General Practice at the heart of patient care (kernowhealthcic.org.uk)](https://kernowhealthcic.org.uk/primary-care-services/school-age-immunisation/) |
| **​Devon**  | ​Kernow Health CIC   | ​1st Floor Cudmore House  ​Oak Lane  ​Truro  ​TR1 3LP   | ​01392 342678 | ​Email: kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net​Website: [School Age Immunisation – Kernow Health | Keeping General Practice at the heart of patient care - Kernow Health | Keeping General Practice at the heart of patient care (kernowhealthcic.org.uk)](https://kernowhealthcic.org.uk/primary-care-services/school-age-immunisation/) |
| **​Dorset**  | ​Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust  | ​Acorn Building​St Leonards Hospital ​Ringwood Road ​St Leonards ​BH24 2DW  | **​**01425 891162 | ​Email: dhc.immsenquiries@nhs.net   ​Website: [Dorset HealthCare :: Dorset School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS)](https://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/schoolageimms) |
| **​Gloucestershire**  | ​Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust  | ​Edward Jenner Court, ​1010 Gloucester Business Park, ​Pioneer Avenue, ​Brockworth, ​Gloucester GL3 4AW  | ​0300 421 8140 | ​Email: ​GHC.Immunisation@ghc.nhs.uk ​Website: [School-aged Immunisation Team > CYPS Glos Health & Care NHS (ghc.nhs.uk)](https://www.ghc.nhs.uk/our-teams-and-services/children-and-young-people/physical-health/school-aged-immunisation-team/) |
| **Somerset**  | SAI Nursing Team (Somerset NHS Foundation Trust)  | Upper Bracken House, Chard Hospital, Chard, TA20 1YA | 0300 323 0032 | Email: somersetsaint@somersetft.nhs.uk  Website: [Somerset School Aged Immunisation Nursing Team | Somerset NHS Trust (somersetft.nhs.uk)](https://www.somersetft.nhs.uk/saints-school-age-immunisation-team/)  |

# **National Child Flu Resources**

Please find below the various resources available for this year’s flu programme and vaccinating children.

## Healthcare Professional Resources

1. All Children

[Annual flu programme - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-flu-programme#2024-to-2025-flu-season)

[National flu immunisation programme plan 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-flu-immunisation-programme-plan-2024-to-2025)

Flu vaccines for children and young people for 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

1. Pre-school Children

Flu vaccine for children: best practice guide for GPs - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Flu vaccination: letter template for children aged 2 and 3 years - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

1. Children in schools

Flu vaccination in schools - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Adolescent vaccination programme in secondary schools for 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

## Patient Resources

1. [Flu vaccination for children: leaflets and posters - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccination-leaflets-and-posters)

Leaflets and posters (translated, large print, braille, BSL and audio versions also available).

1. [Protecting your child against flu leaflet - BSL - Health Publications](https://www.healthpublications.gov.uk/ViewProduct.html?sp=Sprotectingyourchildagainstfluleafletbsl)
2. [PHE Protect yourself against flu school years 7 to 11 BSL subtitles - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ECvoaTL8tag)
3. [Flu vaccination: simple text information for adults and children - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/easy-read-childhood-nasal-flu-leaflet)
4. [Stickers available for order (for children agreed 2 – 11 years old)](https://www.healthpublications.gov.uk/ViewProduct.html?sp=Sflustickersforchildrenaged2to11years)