

Dear Parent/Carer

## **E-consent: School-age vaccinations**

Our Trust has been the commissioned School Aged Immunisation Service provider for the county for more than 15 years and are delighted to be continuing to deliver the national school-based immunisation programme in Gloucestershire.

We are introducing a new way for parents and carers to consent to their children's school-age vaccinations.

The consent process this year will be a new electronic (e-consent) system called Cinnamon. The e-consent process is easy, secure and convenient, and accessible via smart phones (Apple and Android), tablet or computer. This replaces the paper consent forms previously sent home from school.

For families unable to access email or the internet, verbal consent can be given by calling our team on 0300 421 8140. Alternatively, we can provide your school with a paper consent form which can be completed and returned to our team via the school office.

### **The e-consent forms will be used for all school-based vaccinations:**

Seasonal Flu, DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio), Meningitis ACWY (MenACWY), HPV (Human Papillomavirus) and MMR – (Measles, Mumps and Rubella).

### **How e-consent works**

- Before your child's planned immunisation session, you will receive a letter containing a link to the e-consent form and your unique school code. This will be sent via email or text from your child's school.
- Upon receiving the link, complete the form, ensuring you add the unique code for your child's school, then click 'submit'. You will receive an email confirming receipt.
- **If you have more than one child at school, you will need to complete an e-consent form for each child.**
- Your completed e-consent form will be sent to our secure portal.
- Should your consent form raise any queries you will be contacted by a member of the immunisation team to discuss further.
- If your child is needle phobic, highly anxious, or you are worried about anything, please contact us.

- If you don't have access to email or the internet, please call 0300 421 8140. A member of our team can take verbal consent over the phone, or we can provide your child's school with a paper consent form.

**It is important to fill out the consent form, whether consenting to the vaccination or declining it. Failure to respond will result in further contact from the immunisation team to ensure you have received the offer of the flu vaccination for your child.**

### **Students at secondary school**

If we do not receive the completed decision form, each young person may be assessed on an individual basis and invited to self-consent for the vaccination, providing they can demonstrate an understanding of the vaccination being given. This is in-line with the Gillick competency and consent to treatment guidance which can be found at [Consent to treatment - Children and young people - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/consult/condtreat/childrenandyoungpeople/).

### **Following your child's vaccination**

You will receive an email at the end of the working day, confirming your child has received their vaccination at school that day, with details of the vaccination given and any possible side effects.

### **If your child was unable to be vaccinated on the day**

If you have completed a consent form and your child was absent or unwell/unfit/refused at school - therefore unable to have the vaccination at the school session - you will be sent an email with a link at the end of the day which will enable you to book a community clinic appointment.

Should you not receive this email and you were expecting your child to receive their vaccination, please check your spam/junk email inbox. If you haven't received an email contact the immunisation team on 0300 421 8140 or email [FLUImmunisation@ghc.nhs.uk](mailto:FLUImmunisation@ghc.nhs.uk).

If you have a child or children who are educated at home, our team can provide you a link to book an appointment at one of our community clinics.

If you do not want your child to receive the vaccination, please submit a consent form declining the vaccination via the e-consent link.

### **Information has changed?**

If your child has commenced medication or received a diagnosis which may impact on whether they can be safely vaccinated, please email [FLUImmunisation@ghc.nhs.uk](mailto:FLUImmunisation@ghc.nhs.uk) at least **one full school day** before the vaccination session.

### **Changed your mind?**

If you have changed your mind and no longer want your child to be vaccinated, please email [WithdrawConsentSAIS@GHC.NHS.UK](mailto:WithdrawConsentSAIS@GHC.NHS.UK) at least **one full school day** before the session.

If withdrawing consent on the day of the vaccination session, please provide a written letter to your child's school reception for the urgent attention of the immunisation team. You will need to provide your child's name, date of birth and year group. If your child is too young to hand in the letter themselves, please ensure you give it to school reception at the start of the school day.

### **Receiving the vaccine sooner**

If your school's scheduled vaccination session is late within the autumn term and you would like your child to receive their vaccination earlier, please contact the immunisation team. They will send you a link to book your child into one of our community clinics.

### **Need more information?**

If you have any questions, or would like further information, visit our website [Immunisation > Glos Health & Care NHS Foundation Trust \(ghc.nhs.uk\)](#) or contact the immunisation team on **0300 421 8140**.