



Your Growing Healthy Team are here for all children and young people, providing support, encouraging healthy lifestyles and protecting those who are most vulnerable.

[hdfc.childhood.immunisations@nhs.net](mailto:hdfc.childhood.immunisations@nhs.net)

01423 553115

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The childhood immunisation team will be concluding this year's flu immunisation programme this month. We are holding a final catch-up clinic in your area (please see below for details). This will be your **last chance** to catch your child up if they were missed when we visited their school. The flu vaccine is being offered to all children from Reception up to and including Year 7. We cannot vaccinate children in other year groups.

This is a drop-in clinic. You do not need to make an appointment or contact us for any reason, unless you have a specific question or medical concern. You do not need to fill out a consent form in advance – all necessary paperwork will be completed when you attend the clinic.

VENUE: Knaresborough Community Centre

DATE: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

TIME: 13:00pm – 18:00pm

ADDRESS: 79 Stockwell Avenue, Knaresborough, HG5 0LG

### ***Why is the influenza vaccine being offered?***

This vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against influenza (flu) and stop the spread of the virus within schools, families and the wider community. Influenza is an unpleasant illness that can lead to school absences and sometimes causes serious complications requiring hospitalisation. Vaccinating your child doesn't just protect them – by helping to stop the spread of influenza this winter they will also be protecting vulnerable friends and family of all ages.

### ***How is the influenza vaccine administered?***

Unlike most vaccinations, the nasal influenza vaccine is a quick and simple spray up the nose. There are a small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate. In these cases we offer an intramuscular injection as an alternative. Please check the link below for more information.

### ***Does the nasal influenza vaccine contain pork gelatine? Can my child have the injection instead?***

Yes, the nasal influenza vaccine contains trace amounts of porcine gelatine. If you would like your child to receive the injectable influenza vaccine, which does not contain porcine gelatine, please **email or call us** before attending the clinic as we will need to ensure we have the alternative vaccine available.

## ***Where can I find out more?***

Please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine> for more information about the childhood influenza vaccination programme.

You can contact the childhood immunisations team on [hdfc.childhood.immunisations@nhs.net](mailto:hdfc.childhood.immunisations@nhs.net) or 01423 553115. We are a small team and we cannot always answer the phone straight away, so please leave a message if there is no one available to take your call. We endeavor to respond to all queries within one working day.

Yours sincerely,

**Helen Harvey**  
**Clinical Lead for Childhood Immunisations**



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**www.hdfc.nhs.uk**