**Seasonal Flu Vaccinations from September 2017**

From September 2017, children in reception class and school years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be offered a flu vaccination at schools in Gloucestershire. The vaccine will be administered by nurses from Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust.

The vaccine will help protect your child from what can be a very nasty illness. It may also reduce the chance of others in your family who could be at greater risk of flu – such as grandparents or those will long-term health conditions – getting flu from your child. In areas of England where the flu vaccine in schools was piloted, less flu was detected across all age groups.

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The vaccine will be given as a nasal spray, which cannot cause flu but will build up your child’s immunity to the virus. There may be minor side-effects including a runny nose, headache, tiredness or some loss of appetite.

A short video on the vaccine is available [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jHWwm8NQUw) and more information is available on the NHS Choices website by following [this link](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/child-flu-vaccine.aspx). Information and leaflets for download are available on the Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust website [here](https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/our-services/children-young-people/immunisation/20-general-cic/our-services/449-influenza).