



Mowbray Primary School
Stakeford Lane
Guide Post
Choppington
Northumberland
NE62 5HQ

Headteacher: Mr Andrew Miller

AM/LH

4 December 2019

Dear Parents / Carers

Flu Vaccination Consent Issue

Today we had nurses from the immunisation team in school to administer the Flu Vaccination to those children whose parents had returned consent forms in September. All consent forms were passed back to the immunisation team on Wednesday 18 September 2019.

This morning we, along with many other schools, received the following email from the lead of the immunisation team:

FAO HEAD TEACHER

Good Morning,

I would like to let you know as we are coming to your schools today that we have experienced difficulties with the consent forms this year. I would like to express my apologies to you, your parents and carers and completely understand the frustration you and they may experience.

In response to feedback from last year's campaign, the consent forms were altered, unfortunately, this has not proven to be a success. The team is working very hard to ensure the children are vaccinated in a timely manner and have been doing their very best in a very difficult situation. I apologise that your parents were not called prior to the session in school, but the clinical decision was made to ensure that children were immunised safely.

We offer 100% of children from Reception to Year 6 in North Tyneside, Newcastle and Northumberland the flu vaccine which equates to up to 70000 children. This year with the issues mentioned above we have had approximately 30%-40% of the consent forms that have been incorrectly completed; we are unable to physically contact this volume of parents.

The incomplete forms will be returned today and if possible could you return these to the parents, I will then contact you again in the next few days to arrange another date to capture those children whose consent forms were not complete.

☎ **01670 823198**

✉ **Admin@mowbrayprimary.northumberland.sch.uk**

🌐 **www.mowbrayprimary.northumberland.sch.uk**



I absolutely understand the issues that this has brought and I would like to thank you and the parents for your and their patience and understanding at this extremely busy period.

Again thank you for your support.

All children without the difficulties with the consent form have today received their immunisations. Your child will bring slip back with them to confirm this if they have received the vaccine.

However, in quite a few cases, consent forms were return by the immunisation team this morning. If your child's form was returned to us, or the immunisation team had a query from the form and were unable to contact you to satisfy their query, then your child **did not** receive the vaccine.

If your child's form was returned to us this morning, we have sent this back to you in an envelope. The immunisation team has also enclosed a short letter explaining what has happened and highlighted areas on each consent form where additional information has been requested. If your child did not receive the vaccine due to an unresolved query, the immunisation team has sent a slip back with your child to explain this as well.

If returned forms can be completed and sent back to school by **Friday 6 December**, we will pass these back to the immunisation team again and we will arrange a further date in school for the team to return and administer the vaccines.

I appreciate that this is very frustrating, particularly given the length of time since the forms were returned to the immunisation team as well as the current numbers of children, families and staff suffering from the flu. We will work with the immunisation team to ensure that a "catch up" date is arranged as quickly as possible for the vaccines to be administered.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Miller
Headteacher

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