

## Children's flu vaccine

*The children's flu vaccine is safe and effective and free. It's offered every year as a nasal spray to children to help protect them against flu.*

*The flu vaccination provides important protection to individual children and helps to reduce the spread of flu to their friends, families and the wider community, protecting younger siblings, grandparents and others who are at increased risk of becoming seriously ill from flu.*

### **Nasal FLU vaccine** (Fluenz Tetra - live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV))

- The vaccine is given as a spray squirted up each nostril. It's quick and painless.
- The vaccine will still work even if your child gets a runny nose, sneezes or blows their nose.
- The Nasal Flu vaccine gives children the best protection against flu.
- It may take around 2 weeks for the flu vaccine to work.
- Any children who catch flu after vaccination are less likely to be seriously ill or be admitted to hospital.

### **FLU Injection vaccine** (Fluarix Tetra - inactivated flu vaccine (QIVe))

This year, Birchills Health Centre is pleased to offer alternative Flu vaccine Injection for children whose parents decline the Nasal FLU spray due to its porcine gelatine content.

### **Which Vaccine to choose**

It is very important to vaccinate your child and choosing the right vaccine for them is a personal choice. Public Health England still recommends that you choose the Nasal Flu over the injection because it;

- is more effective
- provides protection for longer
- may offer protection against slightly different types of flu virus
- is easier to give and more comfortable to have

*PHE would like to inform the Muslim communities of the UK of the issues surrounding the vaccine so that you can make an informed decision about whether or not it is acceptable for your child.*

## To Book an Appointment

Please text the “Child Vaccine” to 07800008113

By attending the FLU Clinic, you are consenting to having your choice of the FLU Vaccine for your child. Some information relating to your child’s vaccination may be shared with NHS England and the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) as part of post-payment verification (PPV).

**Further Information is available here;**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/386842/2902998\\_PHE\\_FluPorcine\\_QAforParents\\_FINAL\\_CT.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/386842/2902998_PHE_FluPorcine_QAforParents_FINAL_CT.pdf)

***If you are experiencing a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, do NOT attend the clinic and follow the government’s guidelines. We will re-book you.***