

**MARPLE COTTAGE SURGERY
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31 October 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we are now at the end of our influenza vaccination campaign, we are writing to you to invite your child, as they are now aged 2 to 3, to come for their Influenza Nasal Spray vaccination at the practice.

This vaccine, called Fluenz, is recommended for all children aged between two and eight years of age and is given to stop them catching the influenza virus.

Whilst influenza is a generally a mild disease in children it can cause very serious complications, including pneumonia and indeed on occasion it can cause death.

Fluenz is given as a spray up both nostrils - it is painless and works by getting the body's immune system to block the virus before it can get into the body, so stopping any chance of infection.

Research has shown that in children, Fluenz is a highly effective vaccine that protects against all four influenza viruses that circulate throughout the world each year.

Fluenz is a live vaccine made from highly weakened live viruses - as a consequence it can occasionally cause a runny nose and a minor fever that comes on within 24 - 48 hours of vaccination and lasts a day or two.

One additional benefit of Fluenz for your child is that it also reduces the likelihood of influenza spread to older people, including yourselves and others for example grandparents.

To book your child an appointment for the vaccination or if you have any questions, please contact the practice on 0161 426 0011. Our next available Flu Clinics are:-

- Thursday, 1 November 2018, from 5:20pm
- Monday, 5 November 2018, from 3:10pm

If the above clinic times are not convenient, please contact the practice on 0161 426 0011, where we would be happy to offer an alternative date. Please make sure you book an appointment to ensure that we have a vaccine available.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely



Dr Andrew Johnson



Dr Maher Al-Ausi