

WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL Hazlehurst Drive, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 9TJ

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Head Teacher: Miss T Cotchin BA(Hons) PGCE NPQH



05 January 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Sent on behalf of Dan Flecknoe: Consultant in Public Health

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are <u>currently circulating at high levels</u> and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also <u>continue to be</u> reported.

Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said:

- It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.
- Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular
 handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning
 them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.
- Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering.
 When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.

Flu vaccination

Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

Eligible children include:

- those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022
- · all primary school-aged children
- some secondary school-aged children

You can get more information getting your child vaccinated against flu on NHS.UK.

Best wishes,

Miss Cotchin Head teacher

Our School Values are: Inclusion, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Collaboration.





























