

8th October 2018

	For action	For information	Meeting
To: Headteachers of all Academy & Free Schools	✓		
Copies to: Chair of Governors		✓	
Purpose	To inform and encourage Headteachers and their staff to get the flu vaccination at their GP or participating pharmacy.		
Summary	Seasonal Flu Vaccination for academy & free school staff		
Action required	Highlight the importance of the flu vaccine and promote this to staff members.		

Dear Headteacher

Flu Vaccine for Academy & Free School Staff

Seasonal flu can have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of the population and the best way to avoid catching and spreading flu is by having the vaccination. Ensuring staff members are vaccinated may reduce staff sickness for your school and reduce disruption during the busy winter period.

Staff members who are carers, have a long term health condition (such as respiratory or heart disease, lowered immunity due to disease or treatment) or who are pregnant will be offered the flu vaccination free through the NHS offer via their GP or participating pharmacist.

For all remaining staff, WSCC is writing to highlight the importance of being vaccinated not only to protect staff members and reduce staff absence, but also to protect children at risk of catching the flu. For staff who are not eligible to access the free NHS offer, the vaccine can be accessed **for a small fee** at participating pharmacist setting.

If you have any queries please contact publichealth@westsussex.gov.uk and not the Education and Skills team.

We would encourage all headteachers and management teams to promote this flu vaccination with their staff.

Yours sincerely

ANNA RALEIGH

Director of Public Health