

2023 to 2024 flu season

Which flu vaccine should children have?

The following vaccines are suitable for children and this chart indicates which vaccine is recommended by age for this season

LAIV nasal spray

Live attenuated influenza vaccine, nasal spray suspension
Available to order from ImmForm

QIVc injection

Inactivated quadrivalent influenza vaccine, cell grown
Available to order from ImmForm

QIVe injection

Inactivated quadrivalent influenza vaccine, egg grown
Not supplied by ImmForm

What is the child or young person's age?

under **6 months** of age

Infants under 6 months of age are too young to have the flu vaccine (this is why it is important that expectant mothers have a flu vaccination; pregnant women can have the flu vaccine at any stage of their pregnancy)

6 months to under **2 years**

Are they in a clinical risk group?^(iv)

No

They are not eligible for the flu vaccine

Yes

They should have the injected QIVc 'off label'

Or **QIVe⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾** if QIVc not available
Children in this age group who have never had a flu vaccination will need 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart

From **2 years⁽ⁱ⁾** to less than **18 years** of age

in eligible year group or in a clinical risk group^(iv)

Is the LAIV nasal spray contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable?⁽ⁱⁱ⁾

No

No contraindications to LAIV nasal spray
They should have the LAIV nasal spray vaccine

Children under 9 years of age in a clinical risk group^(iv) who have never had a flu vaccination will need 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart

Yes

LAIV contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable
They should have the injected QIVc 'off label'

Or **QIVe⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾** if QIVc not available
Children under 9 years of age in a clinical risk group^(iv) who have never had a flu vaccination will need 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart



(i) Aged 2 years on 31 August 2023, unless in a clinical risk group.
(ii) If the parent of an eligible child declines LAIV because of its porcine gelatine content, they can request an alternative injectable vaccine. QIVc is available to order from ImmForm for these children.
(iii) QIVe is not supplied by ImmForm.
(iv) Or a child who is a household contact of an immunocompromised individual.

Resources

Annual flu programme
www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-flu-programme

Green Book Influenza Chapter 19
www.gov.uk/government/publications/influenza-the-green-book-chapter-19