

Date: 27th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Immunisation Update

As children settle into the autumn term, we would like to take this opportunity to highlight the importance of ensuring that your child is up to date with their routine immunisations.

Immunisation helps to keep communities safe through the reduction of vaccine-preventable diseases that can circulate in schools and in the wider community. Immunisation also helps to keep children and other family members protected against serious illnesses. Immunisation also reduces the likelihood of outbreaks of infectious diseases in schools and reduces pupil and staff absence.

Immunisations offered in schools

Immunisation continues to be the best protection against a range of infectious diseases. Your child will be offered a range of vaccinations during their time at school, as per the table below which includes links to NHS information on each vaccine:

Vaccine	School years eligible	Mode of administration and schedule	Diseases protected against
Children's flu vaccine	Primary School (reception to year 6)	Nasal spray One dose (unless otherwise indicated)	Protects against the influenza virus
	Secondary School (years 7 to 11)	(Injected vaccine is available if nasal spray is unsuitable)	
		Offered annually in the autumn term	
HPV Vaccine	Years 8 and 9	Injected, one dose	Protects against genital warts and HPV related cancers such as cervical cancer, cancers of the head and neck and cancers of the genital area
MenACWY vaccine	Year 10	Injected	Meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y
		One dose	

Td/IPV vaccine	Year 10	Injected	Tetanus, diphtheria and polio
(3-in-1 teenage			
booster)		Final dose of the	
		course	
MMR	At all	Injected	Measles, mumps, rubella
(measles,	opportunities	-	-
mumps and		2 doses	
rubella)			
vaccine			

These vaccines will provide your child with protection against a range of potentially serious and life-threatening diseases. You will be contacted by the provider of the vaccination before immunisation is delivered in your child's school, and given the opportunity to provide consent for your child to be immunised.

Routine vaccines have been given to generations of children and are proven to be effective at preventing serious childhood illnesses. We know that parents and carers may have further questions about taking up the offer of vaccination. As well as the above links about each vaccine the Vaccine Knowledge Project is also a source of independent, evidence-based information about vaccines and infectious diseases that parents and carers may also wish to visit to answer any questions they may have.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Musgrave FFPH Director of Public Health

Cath Pealing
Assistant Director of Education

c. Leaf