

January 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

Your young person is due 2 vaccinations that are free on the NHS and are given in year 9 as part of the national immunisation programme. The vaccinations are to protect against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (3-in-1 Teenage Booster) and 4 strains of Meningitis (ACWY).

- Meningitis ACWY vaccination helps to protect your child against four types of meningococcal bacteria (groups A, C, W and Y) that can cause meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning). These diseases are very serious and can kill, especially if not diagnosed early.
- The 3 in 1 Teenage booster vaccination protects against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio, this should be the 5th dose which completes their childhood course; it boosts protection started earlier with baby and pre-school vaccinations against these diseases to give long lasting protection.

More information regarding these vaccinations can be accessed through the links below, please ensure that you read the information contained in the links below prior to completing the online consent form and giving consent for your child's immunisations.

www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/vaccination-schedule-age-checklist.aspx
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/men-acwy-vaccine/>
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/3-in-1-teenage-booster/>
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543950/PHE_9909_MenW_leaflet.pdf

****The number of children and young people catching measles has risen. It is never too late to be vaccinated. To be fully protected against measles, mumps and rubella you need 2 vaccinations given one month apart. If your child has missed one or both of the MMR vaccinations please contact the team on 0300 124 0366 to arrange this vaccine****

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine/>

You must have parental responsibility or delegated authority to consent for the vaccinations – please see definitions below if you are unsure you will be able to give consent.

The School Age Immunisation Service has arranged with the school to visit on **Wednesday 7th February 2024** to administer these vaccinations.

Electronic Consent - The team uses a paperless consent system called e-Consent for the school aged vaccination programmes. The use of eConsent is quicker and easier to use and can be completed on any electronic device including phones, tablets and laptops.

To complete the on-line e-consent form, please use the following link:

<https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/>

Choose the following from the dropdown list:

The Hart School – 07 Feb 2024 – ACWY & TdIPV

Your school code is:

AD137100-24

Please make sure that you complete and submit your child's consent form as soon as you get it, whether you wish your child to be vaccinated or not and **only submit one consent form per child**. When the e-consent form is submitted you will be given a unique reference code, if you do not see this code when submitting the e-consent form you should contact the team on the number below.

Consent Forms need to be completed by Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 10:00am, as we are unable to accept them after this date.

***PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

The person(s) with parental responsibility will usually, but not always be the child's birth parents. People with parental responsibility for the child include: the child's mother; the child's father if married to the mother at the child's conception, birth or later; a legally appointed guardian; the local authority if the child is on a care order; or a person named in a residence order in respect of the child. Fathers who have never been married to the child's mother will only have parental responsibility if they acquired it through a court order or parental responsibility agreement. After the 30th November 2003 unmarried fathers have automatic parental responsibility for their children if they are named on the birth certificate. For a child born before the 30th November 2003, they can be re-registered and the father named on the birth certificate, after which the father will have automatic parental responsibility.

(Ref: www.childrenslegalcentre.com)

DELEGATED AUTHORITY:

In particular circumstances, the person(s) who hold(s) parental responsibility may have given delegated authority to a foster carer to be able to give consent for immunisations. Where a foster carer does not hold delegated authority for immunisations please arrange for the local authority to complete and sign the enclosed form.

FRASER GUIDELINES:

Children under the age of 16 can consent to their own treatment if they are believed to have competence and understanding to fully appreciate what is involved in their treatment.

(<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/consent-to-treatment/children/>)

The vaccinations will be given into the muscle in both upper arms; school tops with short sleeves are easier on the day however if your young person wears long sleeves can a vest be worn under their shirt on the day of vaccination.

If your child is absent or ill on the day of a vaccination we will offer an opportunity for a catch up date either in school or at a community clinic. If your child has already received these immunisations, please contact us at school.immunisation@mpft.nhs.uk to prevent the vaccination(s) being duplicated.

If you have any concerns and would like to discuss these vaccinations further, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Immunisation Service on 0300 124 0366 Monday – Friday 8:30am – 4pm.

Yours Sincerely

School Age Immunisation Service.

<https://www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/school-age-immunisation>



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